

S  
362.63  
M26frss  
1974

**FINAL REPORT**

**ON**

**THE SUPPLEMENTAL SECURITY INCOME ALERT**

**PROGRAM**

**FOR THE**

**AGED - BLIND - DISABLED**

**STATE OF MONTANA**

**15 MAY 1974**

STATE DOCUMENTS COLLECTION

MAY 09 2003

MONTANA STATE LIBRARY  
1515 F. G. AVE.  
HELENA, MONTANA 59611

MONTANA STATE LIBRARY



**3 0864 1001 9892 1**

FINAL REPORT

ON

THE SUPPLEMENTAL SECURITY INCOME ALERT

PROGRAM

FOR THE

AGED - BLIND - DISABLED

STATE OF MONTANA

15 MAY 1974

SUPPLEMENTARY SECURITY INCOME ALERT PROGRAM  
FINAL REPORT

TABLE OF CONTENTS

I. REPORT INTRODUCTION

Appendix I.....Map of Montana SSI Alert Districts

II. BASIC REPORTS:

ANNEX A.....GREAT FALLS DISTRICT FOUR MONTH SUMMARY

TAB A.....Great Falls Monthly Report, Jan 74

TAB B.....Great Falls Monthly Report, Feb 74

TAB C.....Great Falls Monthly Report, Mar 74

TAB D.....Great Falls Monthly Report, Apr 74

Appendix I.....Great Falls District - Area of  
Responsibility

Appendix II.....Great Falls SSI Statistics  
Jan - Apr 74

ANNEX B.....BILLINGS DISTRICT FOUR MONTH SUMMARY

TAB A.....Billings Monthly Report, Jan 74

TAB B.....Billings Monthly Report, Feb 74

TAB C.....Billings Monthly Report, Mar 74

TAB D.....Billings Monthly Report, Apr 74

Appendix I.....Billings District - Area of  
Responsibility

Appendix II.....Billings SSI Statistics  
Jan - Apr 74



ANNEX C.....MISSOULA DISTRICT FOUR MONTH SUMMARY

TAB A.....Missoula Monthly Report, Jan 74

TAB B.....Missoula Monthly Report, Feb 74

TAB C.....Missoula Monthly Report, Mar 74

TAB D.....Missoula Monthly Report, Apr 74

Appendix I.....Missoula District - Area of  
Responsibility

Appendix II.....Missoula SSI Statistics  
Jan - Apr 74

ANNEX D.....BUTTE DISTRICT FOUR MONTH SUMMARY

TAB A.....Butte Monthly Report, Jan 74

TAB B.....Butte Monthly Report, Feb 74

TAB C.....Butte Monthly Report, Mar 74

TAB D.....Butte Monthly Report, Apr 74

Appendix I.....Butte District - Area of  
Responsibility

Appendix II.....Butte SSI Statistics  
Jan - Apr 74

ANNEX E.....HELENA DISTRICT FOUR MONTH SUMMARY

TAB A.....Helena Monthly Report, Jan 74

TAB B.....Helena Monthly Report, Feb 74

TAB C.....Helena Monthly Report, Mar 74

TAB D.....Helena Monthly Report, Apr 74

Appendix I.....Helena District - Area of  
Responsibility

Appendix II.....Helena District SSI Statistics  
Jan - Apr 74

III. SEMINAR REPORTS:

TAB A.....Great Falls Seminar, Dec 73  
TAB B.....Butte Seminar, Jan 74  
TAB C.....Helena Seminar, Feb 74  
TAB D.....Billings Seminar, Mar 74  
TAB E.....Missoula Seminar, Apr 74

IV. OVERALL REPORT SUMMARY FOR MONTANA

ANNEX A.....SSI ALERT DIVISION DIRECTOR REPORT  
FOUR MONTH SUMMARY

ANNEX B.....SSI ALERT DIVISION DIRECTOR REPORT  
JAN 74

TAB A.....Eastern Montana Monthly Report, Jan 74

ANNEX C.....SSI ALERT DIVISION DIRECTOR REPORT  
FEB 74

TAB B.....Eastern Montana Monthly Report, Feb 74

ANNEX D.....SSI ALERT DIVISION DIRECTOR REPORT  
MAR 74

TAB C.....Eastern Montana Monthly Report, Mar 74

ANNEX E.....SSI ALERT DIVISION DIRECTOR REPORT  
APR 74

TAB D.....Eastern Montana Monthly Report, Apr 74

ANNEX F.....SSI ALERT DIVISION DIRECTOR REPORT  
MAY 74

ANNEX G.....SSI ALERT DIVISION SUMMARY ANALYSIS

- Facts and Specific Achievements
- Evaluations
- Problems
- Recommendations
- Phase-Out
- Future

Appendix I.....Montana SSI Alert Organization  
Appendix II.....Montana SSI Alert Budget  
Appendix III.....Montana SSI Alert Statistics

DISTRIBUTION:

STATE GOVERNOR 2  
Helena, Montana

STATE DIRECTOR OF AGING 3  
Helena, Montana

SOCIAL SECURITY AGENCY:

Great Falls District 1  
Billings District 1  
Missoula District 1  
Butte District 1  
Helena District 1

Social Security Regional  
Office - Denver, Colorado 1

AMERICAN NATIONAL RED CROSS:

Western Area 5  
San Francisco, California  
Montana Division 1  
Great Falls, Montana  
Red Cross Liaison Officer 1  
Denver, Colorado  
Red Cross Home Chapters 5

SSI ALERT DISTRICT DIRECTORS:

Great Falls 1  
Billings 1  
Missoula 1  
Butte 1  
Helena 1

Division Director 3

SSI ALERT FINAL REPORT  
15 MAY 1974

I. REPORT INTRODUCTION

APPENDIX I.....MAP OF MONTANA SSI ALERT DISTRICTS

## SSI ALERT PROGRAM

### MONTANA

#### I. REPORT INTRODUCTION

The Supplementary Security Income Program went into effect Tuesday, 1 January 1974. The initial cost of this innovative program will cost one billion dollars and affect approximately six million people. The Supplementary Security Income will be most important because of the precedent it sets in the direction of the widely debated federal guaranteed minimum income. It was embraced in President Nixon's family assistance program of August 1969, which Congress failed to pass and which President Nixon dropped. Now, it is revived for a special group of recipients - the elderly, the blind, and the physically disabled. But the essence of the change, sometime called revolutionary, is that this benefit will not be financed by social security or other specifically designed taxes, but will come directly out of general funds of the United States Treasury.

This program is called Supplementary Security Income or SSI. It became a law on 17 October 1972, to take effect in 1974. History may mark Tuesday, 1 January 1974, as the day when a guaranteed minimum went into effect in America for a very specialized type of recipient. The federal government will henceforth guarantee a minimum income of \$140.00 (single person) / \$210.00 (couple) a month to Americans at least 65 years old, to the blind, and the disabled of any age. The money is distributed as an absolute right to the amount necessary to establish a standard monthly income.

The Supplementary Security Income Program was moved from Federal-State Welfare Agencies to the management and administration by the Social Security Administration throughout the United States. There were various reasons for this move, but a prime reason, intangible as it may seem, was to encourage those eligible peoples to participate in the program and its benefits who had not done so because of pride and the stigma of being on a welfare role. Despite the publicity throughout various news media, the program - prior to January 1974 - had not yet reached successful goals in participation. For example, there were approximately six million aged, blind and disabled people of this nation who were potentially eligible for SSI benefits and not yet participating. As a result of this lack in participation, it was decided, at national level, to charter the American National Red Cross to conduct an intensive 90 day drive and campaign and bring the Supplementary Security Income Program to the attention of the people of the United States, utilizing volunteer forces and agencies.

It is the purpose of this report to show facts and specific achievements of Montana's SSI Alert personnel and volunteer forces in identifying, locating and contacting all eligible persons, of Montana for their briefing, encouragement and participation in SSI benefits.

This report, detailed in outline and comprehensive in content, provides the action/inter-action and historical data of all people who were actively or inactively involved in meeting the overall objective of 100% participation in the SSI Program throughout Montana.

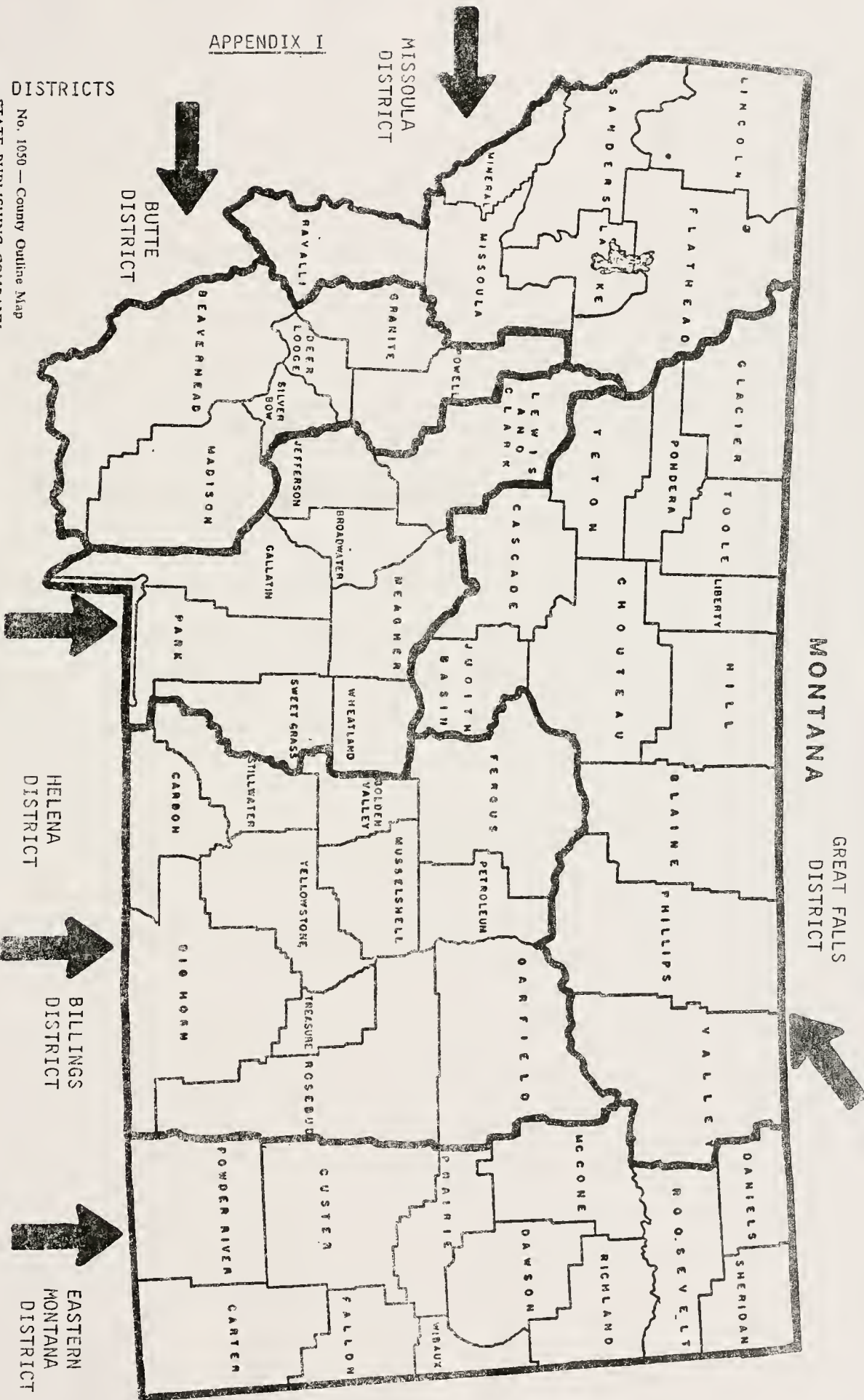
From the beginning until the end, the thread of dedicated volunteer/Red Cross action is interwoven throughout Montana's SSI Alert Program; unquestionably, Montana's hard-working volunteer - who never fails to listen, to work, to respond to his neighbor's need - has left his stamp of civic leadership and absolute competency upon the success of the SSI Alert Program in Montana, 1974.



APPENDIX I

MONTANA SSI ADJUT DISTRICTS

No. 1050 — County Outline Map  
STATE PUBLISHING COMPANY  
Helena  
80 Pads - E - WY



## II. BASIC REPORTS

ANNEX "A"

GREAT FALLS DISTRICT FOUR MONTH SUMMARY

- TAB A.....GREAT FALLS MONTHLY REPORT, JAN 74
- TAB B.....GREAT FALLS MONTHLY REPORT, FEB 74
- TAB C.....GREAT FALLS MONTHLY REPORT, MAR 74
- TAB D.....GREAT FALLS MONTHLY REPORT, APR 74

Appendix I

Great Falls District Area of Responsibility

Appendix II

Great Falls SSI Statistics, Jan - Apr 74

Final Report on SSI Alert Program  
For the  
Aged - Blind - Disabled  
- State of Montana -  
1974

ANNEX "A"

GREAT FALLS DISTRICT  
PROJECT SSI ALERT  
FOUR MONTH SUMMARY  
JAN - APR  
1974

I. FACTS AND SPECIFIC ACHIEVEMENTS:

This four month summary of the SSI Alert Program by Mr. Lars Lithander, SSI Alert District Director, Great Falls District, Montana, is a culmination of problems and success in large, sparsely populated areas throughout northern and eastern Montana (Appendix I). Three large Indian Reservations (Blackfeet, Chippewa/Cree, Sioux and Assiniboine Tribes) lie within the 16 counties of the Great Falls District and represent unique situations for SSI briefing, policy and volunteer action (s). The following statements of fact and achievement are given in a format which help to answer specific questions from state and national levels of inquiry:

a. TRAINING:

Training of volunteers was, I feel, carried out on a consistent format. It basically started with locating an individual (s) who would act as volunteer chairman, thoroughly brief them on SSI Alert and get their cooperation to spearhead the project in their area.

The chairmen and volunteers, groups and agencies were then briefed in a concise manner about SSI, what was expected of them and ideas to im-

plement the goal. The role of SSA with regard to SSI was explained and on several occasions with larger groups of volunteers, an SSI representative was there to explain the program. This was always beneficial.

The complete project was always outlined in detail, including use of referral sheets and their implementation, etc. However, we tried to keep in mind the difference in community make-up according to size and accessibility, etc. In other words, different areas had varying methods in carrying out the project and used varying numbers of volunteers. My main concern was that potential eligibles get to see a Social Security representative, regardless of how they got there or the paperwork they went through. If they came in from publicity, word of mouth, personal contact (with or without a referral form) or whatever, I felt we had accomplished something.

Several of the volunteer chairmen proved themselves extra useful in being able to be on radio and speak to a wide range of target groups. Senior Citizens were probably the largest audience.

To back up for a moment, I should emphasize that I generally went through county Red Cross Chapters in looking for a person or persons to carry the project. As it turned out, almost all people came from Red Cross and several were Red Cross Chairmen for their chapter.

Extensive mailings were done to officials, civic groups and agencies in the area. These people can't be considered trained volunteers, but were aware of SSI and encouraged to support the project.

b. AGENCY PARTICIPATION:

Actually, agency participation made up a large number of volunteers and, in several instances, proved to be the nucleus of SSI Alert in a particular area. Sometimes the agencies, if their enthusiasm is kept at a proper level, do as good, and sometimes better job than the volunteers - for this reason - they are already employed and their particular employment puts them in direct day-to-day contact with much of the target group of people SSI has tried to reach. If they are really concerned about the people they serve, they are able to do a lot of good. I don't think I can make a blanket statement about all agencies in general with regard to this, however, our experience was that we found all agencies that we worked with in our district, with perhaps the exception of one, to be very valuable in our effort.

Some agencies were contacted in a blanket mailing or phone effort and the role they played could be considered only awareness.

(1) The Community Health Representative (CHR) on the Indian Reservations proved to generally be very helpful. This group is in direct contact with aged and handicapped people on the reservations. They are the logical people to help in an effort such as this.

The role they played was to be briefed on SSI by myself and an SSA official. Armed with literature and referral forms, they then carried on a concentrated effort of locating potential SSI eligibles on their respective reservations. They also had an advantage in knowing many people personally and having records at their disposal.



(2) Opportunities, Inc. in Great Falls were briefed by myself and an SSA representative. They are made up of many sub agencies and groups, working mainly with low-income and disadvantaged people in Great Falls. Their value was great in doing personal contact work and I'm sure they are responsible for many of the city of Great Falls applicants.

(3) Local and City Health Departments on the reservations and in Great Falls, Fort Benton, Glasgow, Malta, Havre, Choteau and Conrad referred eligibles through personal contact.

(4) Community Action Programs in Havre, Glasgow and Browning participated within their internal organizations. Few of these, however, were listed as actual volunteers.

(5) County Commissioners in all counties as well as several city governments were aware of the project. Most responded with pledges of support.

(6) The Social Service Agency in Glasgow helped locate eligibles, kept a liasion with the local welfare department and provided transportation.

There was some cooperation with rural letter carriers in isolated areas to give SSI information to people on their routes.

Good cooperation was received with both state and local welfare departments when we called on them with questions. Several individuals also promoted SSI over and above their normal employment.

(7) The Voluntary Action Center (VAC), although we did not utilize their volunteers to a great deal, were a supportive group and could be considered a valuable asset in a similar situation.

(8) The Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) gave us a source of people to speak to and added greatly in publicity for SSI Alert.

(9) The Social Security Administration was of course, the agency with which we naturally had lots of contact. We were a helping agency actually, for them. Regardless of the official nature of the relationship, the cooperation was especially good in Havre and Great Falls. (That does not exclude Glasgow, but our contact with them was minimal when compared to the other two stations). Raymond Pedersen, District Manager, was always most helpful and I enjoyed working with him. Social Security had a problem supplying us with materials at the beginning of the program. That gradually eased as the project went on. There were occasions when up-to-date information was not passed to us quickly enough, I felt. Nevertheless, some of the small problems were not necessarily the fault of the SSA. They had a deluge of applicants in some areas and didn't always have the benefit of extra help themselves.

c. PROCESSING OF POTENTIAL SSI APPLICANTS:

The total applicants processed in the Great Falls District as of April 24, 1974 was 740 out of an estimated potential of 900. This shows 82% complete (See monthly reports for breakdown).

d. PROBLEMS:



(1) Some initial problems were found in organizing simply trying to find chairmen or contacts. As we made more field contact and felt more sure of the project ourselves, this problem was alleviated. It actually was no major problem and I don't think it hurt the project, overall, in terms of getting started.

(2) Occasionally I spoke to groups that had questions I didn't feel I could honestly answer. The solution was to schedule SSA personnel to appear with me or get back to brief the group on their own.

(3) Toward the latter half of Project SSI Alert some volunteers slacked off with their efforts. In some cases this was justified, with others, the solution was to help them explore other avenues of exposure and schedule myself to spend more time in their area.

(4) Several problems arose with some interested persons or volunteers not understanding why a particular individual was not eligible for SSI. I tried to explain by contacting the volunteer and, in some cases, the potential eligible. If my answer was not satisfactory, I would try to make sure of an adequate answer or review by the SSA.

(5) A problem arose on the Fort Belknap reservation at Harlem. I had a hard time pinning down someone or a group to be responsible for SSI Alert. I think I actually made some progress with the CHR's but there was a definite lack of communication. I found that they were actually referring people and an SSA representative had briefed them. The problem or fault cannot be considered all theirs because I obviously should have spent more time making positively sure I had things under control. The problem was solved to a large amount by making contact with the public

health nurse and her staff to get things going from that end. They, with the CHR's, then seemed to get things going in a much smoother manner. I found some definite benefit in actually going out with Mrs. Chapman, the public health nurse, and visiting potential eligibles.

e. EVALUATION OF PUBLICITY

I can make this short by generally saying "good". Initial coverage was good in the major areas. People got a feeling of at least hearing about the project. Up-to-dates each month seemed to get good play. MTN TV News always gave good state-wide coverage each month and the Great Falls Tribune didn't always use our releases, but the project got good coverage from that and other angles. Weeklies were generally good and some smaller area radio stations were excellent.

It is sometimes hard to get material of a public service nature pushed as news. I think the trick was to update news of the project enough to make it concise and interesting. Toward project termination, we placed ads on radio and in papers. This may have also been added incentive for running last month's releases.

A project such as this has to depend on the media for much of its publicity without doing it in a pushy manner. I have to say that I honestly can't complain about the treatment we got.

Other publicity, of course, was by speaking to groups, utilizing posters, church bulletins, senior citizens centers and the like. I think its hard to evaluate things like that, but it can never be bad to have all the tasteful exposure you can get for a program.

f. ACTIVITIES THAT HAVE EVOLVED AS A RESULT OF PROJECT SSI ALERT,  
AS APPLICABLE:

I think I have to say this is a tough question and may even be too early to evaluate, plus probabl minimal activity. I think, however, that local Red Cross Chapters participating in SSI Alert have this experience to add to a list of accomplishments within the overall organization.

A general knowledge to all concerned regarding an understanding of SSI and workings of the Social Security Administration Programs.

Certain groups, such as Senior Citizens, have had extra incentive to help in the project. This can only promote more harmony, hopefully, within these groups and organizations.

Young people have benefited by learning about the needs of the elderly and all of us have certainly benefited by learning more about the needs of the aged, blind and disabled.

g. PARTICIPATION OF MINORITY GROUPS:

Minority groups have generally been with the government agencies. One in Great Falls and the several Indian reservation groups. We see approximately 35 people involved with minority groups, almost without exception being American Indians. We can visualize a slightly top-heavy situation here with the ratio of minority workers/volunteers to SSI applicants of the same minority. Over 40% of individuals involved in SSI Alert were minority.

h. RELATIONS WITH GOVERNMENT AGENCIES:

Refer to Agency Participation.

i. LOCAL SUPPORT FOR PROJECT SSI ALERT:

Parts of a discussion of this can be found in other areas of this summary. Local support was good and varied in the communities, around the district. Generally, there was only a small amount of skepticism and the tie-in with Red Cross made support and enthusiasm more realistic to some.

j. ASSESSMENT OF LONG TERM BENEFITS OF SSI ALERT:

At this date, I have to say this is difficult to assess. Two main areas are important at this time, however;

1) The benefits to the hundreds of people in the district that received, and will receive, SSI benefits cannot really be calculated except to say that for most of them it has given an added source of income, which is especially important in this day of inflation. It has meant the difference between existing and "living" for some and that has to be important at this time.

2) The benefits of people working together to promote the project has been great. Plus, an added incentive is that a good portion of those same people will perhaps be willing participants in future projects.

k. WILLINGNESS OF LOCAL SUPPORT ORGANIZATIONS TO UNDERTAKE SIMILAR PROJECTS IN THE FUTURE.

(See previous dissertation). Willingness probably varies, but indications seem to be good that the possibilities are definitely open to future projects, especially if they are of a good and sound value.

While some people may honestly be glad of the projects termination, several have indicated to me their interest to do more, especially with the Red Cross.

1. SPECIAL EVENTS OR HUMAN INTEREST RESULTING FROM THE VOLUNTEERS/  
CONSORTIUMS' EFFORTS:

Refer to Activities Evolved as Result of SSI Alert.

TAB A

GREAT FALLS DISTRICT  
MONTHLY REPORT

JANUARY 1974

JANUARY 7

. We did a mailing to all Great Falls area churches asking them to include SSI information in their church bulletin or newsletters. An abbreviated blurb about SSI was included for their convenience. (This has worked well, and people in other communities are asked to do this with their area churches).

. Public service announcements were prepared for television stations and contact was made to get support for their airing.

. Finalized schedule.

JANUARY 8

. Initial news releases prepared and sent to all newspapers in Great Falls Social Security District, plus broadcast versions done for radio and TV in the district. State United Press International and Associated Press received same as well as Intermountain Network.

. Appointment was made for Division Director, Phillip Gonzales to do a news interview with Montana Television Network at KRTV in Great Falls. Gonzales kept this appointment a few days later and it was broadcast on the evening news, reaching all of the Great Falls Social Security District plus ran the following day on "Today in Montana", going statewide.

. Visited SSA Office.



JANUARY 9

- . Made initial visits to Conrad, Shelby and Chester.
- . CONRAD - Reverend John Moes, Red Cross Chapter Chairman contacted and briefed about SSI Alert, seemed fairly willing to help, but I got the impression he was not the person to head the project. Therefore, Mrs. Martha Copenhaver will take the reins. I have good feelings about her ability to spearhead things in that community. She is well versed on SSI and directed Project Find previously.
- . SHELBY - Mr. Calvin Blatter, Chapter Chairman, contacted and briefed about SSI. He, like Reverend Moes in Conrad, willing to help but not having time, suggested former Project Find Director, Mrs. Earl Brittain to head SSI Alert Project in Shelby area. Mrs. Brittain, I believe will prove to be excellent in that capacity. She works daily at the Senior Citizens Center and knows her community well. She will also cover outlying areas.
- . CHESTER - One and only contact in Chester is Reverend Noel Peterson. He expressed interest in SSI Alert and will carry the ball for that area. It is a small community and a sparsely populated area, but Reverend Peterson is well know and seems to have a sense of knowing how to go ahead on his own.

JANUARY 10

- . Visited Mr. Gale Issakson, Chapter Chairman in Choteau. He was most interested and helpful. We spent most of the meeting discussing the population make-up of Teton County and how best to direct our efforts there.

- . Met with Opportunities, Inc. in Great Falls that afternoon.
- . Did radio tape in KARR in Great Falls.

#### JANUARY 11

- . Met with Red Cross people in Great Falls and VAC.
- . Talked to chairman of Great Falls Senior Citizens organizations.
- . Mailings about SSI to all county hospitals and rest homes in district.
- . Visited SSA Office.

#### JANUARY 14

- . Good part of day spent in correspondence.
- . Attending meeting in the afternoon at the Easter Seal Society in Great Falls. It concerned the Federal/State Campaign Services group. I was there specifically representing the Montana Association for Mental Health. However, I took the opportunity to explain Supplemental Security Income to the group. Included were individuals from the Montana Heart Association, March of Dimes, Muscular Dystrophy, Easter Seals, Montana Diabetic Association and several other interested people in attendance.

#### JANUARY 15

- . HAVRE - Met with Mr. Tom Taylor, Chapter Chairman. Most interested and helpful. Seemed to comprehend basics of SSI very well.
- . CHINOOK - Contacts not available. Subsequent contact with Mada Mc Cartney and Mr. Leon Eliason, Chapter Chairman to handle that area.

#### JANUARY 16

- . GLASGOW - Meeting with Mr. John Goff, Chapter Chairman. Very



nice and willing to help in project. Accidently met Glasgow's mayor and asked for his support of SSI Alert. Contact made with Mrs. F. M. Boehme and Mrs. Blaine Hage. Mrs. Hagen, subsequently will handle SSI Alert for Valley County. She is former Project Find Director and knows her way around the community very well. Good organizer from the sound of things.

- . Visited SSA Office
- . MALTA - Met with Reverend Albert Howell. He is elderly but that is probably an advantage in his community, because he is still actively involved in many organizations and knows almost everyone in the area. Feel confident he, in his own way, can help us there tremendously.

#### JANUARY 17

HAVRE - Met with Mrs. Loretta Plovonic and several members of her staff at the Community Action Program facilities. She will head up SSI Project in Havre. Well known in the community and area, fully aware of eligibles, works with Senior Citizens and low income people, knows SSA officials in Havre and formerly on Project Find. Has access to many volunteers. I feel very confident in her.

- . Visited SSA Office
- . In my absence, I made arrangements for SSA officials in Great Falls to meet 40 people involved in various aspects of Opportunities, Inc. They spoke to 40 people about SSI. They are a valuable group because of their outreach work into low income areas. Should prove to be a valuable asset.

- . FORT BENTON - Met with Mrs. Larry Eloff. She is chapter secretary. Had good knowledge of her area and seemed to be able to put her ideas to work.

#### JANUARY 18

- . Did correspondence.
- . Director of Retired Seniors Volunteer Program in Great Falls prepared a mailing to 600 people with SSI information. Subsequent mailings in February will increase this number to about 1,400 total.
- . Visited SSA Office.

#### JANUARY 21

- . Morning spent in correspondence.
- . Visited district and local Social & Rehabilitative Services unit.
- . Had lunch with group of doctors at Great Falls Clinic. Explained SSI for their awareness.
- . Talked to staff and students at Great Falls Learning Center.

#### JANUARY 22

- . STANFORD - Visited with Mr. Albert Janke, former Project Find worker. Explained SSI to him and elicited his support to work on project.
- . Visited SSA representative, who happened to be at Judith Basin County Courthouse that day.
- . GERALDINE - This is the other major population area in Choteau County, which also includes Fort Benton. Met with Mrs. Ruth Sullivan. She is extremely willing to help on SSI Alert and knows people in her community well.

JANUARY 23

- . CONRAD -Follow-up visit with Reverend Moes and detailed planning with Mrs. Copenhaver. She will take responsibility for seeing that out-lying communities are reached with SSI information.
- . SHELBY - Met with Mrs. Brittain at Senior Citizens Center and spoke to about 15 people about SSI. She already has several referrals taken care of. Feel good about her ability. Mrs. Brittain can also contact other communities in her county.
- . Made appointment to be on KSEN Radio in February to talk about SSI.

JANUARY 24

- . Spoke to Cascade County Association of Community Service Workers at noon luncheon. About 50 to 60 people in attendance. Very good group to get the word out to.
- . Visited SSA Office
- . Made appointment to appear on KFBB TV February 18th.

JANUARY 25

- . Met with Mrs. Weicks, Voluntary Action Center Director. She referred names of people who may be able to help in Cascade County out-reach work.
- . Did mailing and correspondence to various individuals and agencies.
- . Visited SSA Office.

JANUARY 28

- . Did correspondence and phoning.

- . Worked on January Report.

JANUARY 29

- . CHOTEAU - Visited Chapter Chairman Dale Issakson in Choteau and got together with Mrs. Grant Curtis. Mrs. Curtis will head up SSI Alert in Teton County and will see to it that the towns of Fairfield and Dutton are adequately covered. Mrs. Curtis formerly headed Project Find and feels confident of her ability to head the SSI Alert Project.
- . Checked newspapers in Choteau and Dutton.

## OVERVIEW

I suppose I can say that January was the month in which we made ourselves somewhat visible and got our own feet wet, so to speak. Most initial contacts were made and the "gearing-up" for February and March began. I would say I am generally pleased with things, but realize there is still much to be done before I feel that everything is in motion.

One area in Great Falls District that still needs some amount of initial attention from me is the Cut Bank area, including Browning. We have not made substantial contact there yet and even though phone calls and correspondence have taken place, the area needs my own personal attention. This is top priority the first week in February. Hopefully, we have an idea, however, of who our key people will be.

I have been in contact by mail with all the Indian Reservations in my district and also visited the Fort Belknap and Rocky Boy Reservations in person while passing through the respective areas. Even though agency leaders have complete SSI information on hand, I do not as yet know how they are working things from their end. This area needs attention and I'll be most interested to hear ideas from other districts and division people at the Butte Seminar, January 30-31.

The Social Security branches in Havre and Glasgow are receiving SSI inquiries and some referrals and have informed us the Red Cross people in the area have contacted them. This is proving that our volunteers in those areas are at work. The Great Falls SSA Office has had many inquiries by phone and in person. Most of this has followed on the wave of either TV or newspaper publicity.

Social Security figures of at least 1,000 eligible people in the Great Falls District alone may be a bit steep (and, likewise, around the state). However, we all realize that even if it is actually only  $\frac{1}{4}$  that number, or whatever, our job is still to help who we can. The volunteers mostly, also feel this way. When in doubt, it still behooves us to explore a possible eligible.

I have to gear my thought in a constructive manner to Cascade County itself. I have to reach more of the outlying communities even though there is a representative in almost all of them. Possible help may be on the way from individuals referred by the Voluntary Action Center. (See next month's report).

There are several lists available for use, mostly senior citizens. There is a partial list done in a survey by the Council on Aging (Cascade County), a list from the courthouse of those people who in 1973 received property tax relief, plus a list of retired persons from the United Fund. Plus, the census figures and city directory. Without some sort of list from Social Security or the Welfare Department, I'm not positive how to cross-reference anything.

My secretary and possible volunteers could spend time telephoning, but before I pursue that, I would welcome ideas pro and con. As it is now, it is extremely hit and miss and/or would take much time in cross-reference.

In my day-to-day report I have left out some undocumented items that I will relate here.

. Piper, Jaffray & Hopwood, brokerage firm in Great Falls ran for weeks, a blurb about SSI on their stock market report on KMON, the 10,000 watt radio station in Great Falls.

. In the little towns between county seats, I generally stop and try to leave SSI material at one or two places in town. A gas station, grocery store, somewhere visible with the manager or proprietor's permission. Likewise, in county seats, at the courthouse, libraries, city halls, post offices and other gathering places. I, in no way just dump material and run, but ask someone if I may leave it and explain a little about SSI. Usually, the cooperation, especially in these smaller towns is good.

. I also visit in person or write to someone who I am not actually asking that they be volunteers. However, because of their position in the community, I ask them to pass on the information and have eligible people in mind. I have also done the same with several groups and organizations in Great Falls who don't normally take on such projects as ours, but whom I feel it is good to at least let them know of SSI.

. The preceding methods, I realize are chancy, but only a small amount of time is actually spent in implementation and it is at least spreading the word.

. Social Security has had to reorder pamphlets because we have been using a good number. I must confess that my actual itinerary for January looks quite different from the proposed agenda. However, I feel the same general ground was covered and taken care of.

I also generally check with newspapers along the way. I found that most ran our initial release and will continue to do so in the future, especially as it is geared more to a local level. \*\*



The start of radio public service announcements in our district will add a good shot of publicity.

LARS LITHANDER  
GREAT FALLS DISTRICT

JANUARY 30, 1974

\*\* See Attached memo



\*\*

ATTACHMENT

1. TOTAL SSI APPLICATIONS POSSIBLE	<u>900</u>
2. TOTAL SSI APPLICATIONS RECEIVED	<u>208</u>
3. REFERRALS RECEIVED	<u>32</u>
4. REFERRALS SCREENED	<u>7</u>
5. TOTAL 56 COUNTIES VISITED	<u>12</u>
6. TOTAL VOLUNTEERS RECRUITED	<u>36</u>
7. TOTAL VOLUNTEERS BRIEFED/TRAINED	<u>53</u>
8. SSI MAILINGS	<u>135</u>
AGENCIES	<u>101</u>
GROUPS	<u>34</u>
9. TOTAL CIVIC GROUPS BRIEFED/NUMBER	<u>1/60</u>
10. TOTAL RADIO MEDIA INTERVIEWS	<u>1/7</u>
11. TOTAL TELEVISION MEDIA INTERVIEWS	<u>1/2</u>
12. TOTAL NEWSPAPER MEDIA PRINTED	<u>21</u>
13. NUMBER TIMES CONSORTIUM MET	<u>3</u>
14. NUMBER PEOPLE CONSORTIUM BRIEFED	<u>8</u>
15. INDIAN RESERVATIONS VISITED	<u>1</u>
16. NUMBER INDIANS BRIEFED	<u>18</u>
17. TOTAL MILES TRAVELED	<u>1,870</u>

TAB B

GREAT FALLS DISTRICT  
MONTHLY REPORT

FEBRUARY 1974

FIRST WEEK

- . Mailings to groups and clubs, etc.
- . News releases prepared.
- . Visited Conrad, Shelby, Cut Bank & Browning.

Mrs. Copenhaver in Conrad is now grasping SSI very well and her enthusiasm is evident in her willingness to talk to groups in her community and contact outlying areas of Ledger, Valier, Brady, etc.

In Shelby, Mrs. Brittain, at the Senior Citizens Center has always had a group of people for me to visit with. She has no hesitation about using the referral forms and maintains contact with Social Security representatives when in Shelby. She has also taken on the responsibility of contacting the outlying communities in her county.

Cut Bank is covered by Monte Fauque, Red Cross Chairman for Glacier County. More important in Glacier County, however, is perhaps the Browning area and the Blackfeet Reservation. This is headed up by Community Health Representative (CHR), Marie Williamson. She had 20 people in attendance to be briefed by myself and will also recruit several more people on her own. Several other individuals were briefed at the CAP Program and Blackfeet Agency at the same time. Mr. Johnson, Social Security representative from Havre subsequently briefed the same group of CHR's at a meeting set up for Wednesday, February 20th.

## SECOND WEEK

. Visited Rocky Boy Reservation, Havre, Chinook, Big Sandy and Fort Benton.

At Rocky Boy, contacts were CHR's Paul Parker and Irene Mitchell plus four other workers. The group I briefed also included several other agency personnel and teachers. Mr. Johnson, Social Security, attended this meeting with me and gave a briefing.

In Havre, Mrs. Plovonic had been busy and has been expanding out into other communities in Hill County. Because of her position with the CAP in Havre, plus her work with Senior Citizens, she is in a good position to find potential SSI recipients. I spoke to a group of 35 Senior Citizens this trip, plus several people from the CAP.

In Chinook, I contacted Mrs. Mc Cartney and Mr. Eliason and spoke to 10 people at the Senior Citizens Center. Because of community size, I let the organization be fairly low-keyed and feel the people who are contacts there, do what they can on their own because of their community knowledge.

In Big Sandy, my contact is Mrs. Lucille Seccora. She called our office in January with a question about SSI and from that contact agreed to distribute material and spread the word in that community. Big Sandy is in Choteau County.

Mrs. Eloff in Fort Benton seems to be doing what she can for the community and has enlisted good help. I spoke to a group of nurses at the hospital and informed them of SSI.

I also visited Belt, Stockett, Monarch and Neihart. Because of their close proximity to Great Falls, they are covered by Great Falls publicity. However, I do have four contacts in those areas. Two of them I would consider real volunteers and the other two simply contact people. All communities except Belt are extremely small.

Sunday of the second week, four church youth groups in Great Falls that visited shut-ins in the area were given SSI information to take along. They were quite enthused about it and did a good job of presenting SSI. They will repeat this in March to different groups.

### THIRD WEEK

. Appeared on KFBB TV February 18 to explain SSI. KFBB has good coverage throughout the entire district.

. Visited Stanford, Geraldine, Malta, Glasgow, Fort Belknap and points between.

In Stanford, two more contacts were made to insure more coverage for outlying communities. In Geraldine, Mrs. Sullivan was carrying out her share of SSI quite well.

In Malta, Reverend Howell had been pushing SSI through the ministerial association and local civic groups and also Senior Citizens. I feel satisfied that things are generally being well taken care of in that area.

The Glasgow SSI Alert Project is headed up by Mrs. Blanche Hagen, a tireless individual. While there she had me speak to two Senior Citizen groups, one in Glasgow and the other, a noon luncheon in Hinsdale. About 30 people

were in attendance at each gathering. I appeared on radio with her talking about SSI and she is going back on the air (KLTZ) with Mr. Martin this week. He is the Glasgow Social Security Manager.

Mrs. Hagen is extremely enthusiastic and has plans to drive to all outlying communities to talk about SSI. These include, besides Hinsdale, Fort Peck, Nashua, Opheim and also Saco, even though it is just over the line into Phillips County. Mrs. Hagen also has five volunteers helping her effort in Glasgow.

While in Glasgow, I also spoke to a Kiwanis breakfast. I was received graciously enough, but it was definitely the wrong group to ask to help. Nevertheless, it was another group to inform of SSI. While in Glasgow, I also visited the Mountain Plains Program at Glasgow AFB. We had mailed literature ahead and I visited with several people and answered their questions. It is doubtful, however, that many eligibles will come from that area.

I visited the last of the three Indian Reservations in my district, Fort Belknap. Mrs. Gertrude Work was to have been the CHR I was to have contacted, but she was not to be found. Nevertheless, the trip was not all in vain as other individuals promised to pass the material and a written briefing on to the right place. While there I did brief three CAP secretaries on the project and they did have a definite interest. Mrs. Johnson from Havre will be available to talk with them on Feb. 26.

Upon returning to Great Falls, I prepared a brief report on SSI Alert progress for all Red Cross Chapters in the district plus other helping

agencies making up the consortium.

I visited Cascade, Simms, Fairfield and Choteau. In two of the communities I received assurance of the possibility of rural mail carriers delivery SSI brochures to people that could be eligible. In Choteau, I visited with Mrs. Curtis, volunteer chairman and Mr. Issakson. Things seem to be progressing quite well.

. Spoke to Exchange Club in Great Falls earlier in the week.

#### FOURTH WEEK

Was on KSEN Radio in Shelby for an hour talk show about SSI Alert. Mrs. Brittain also appeared with me. This was valuable in that KSEN covers the towns of Fort Benton, Shelby, Chester, Cut Bank, Conrad, Choteau and communities in between. We made use of the time by completely going over aspects of SSI, mentioning particulars about volunteers in all the communities and mentioned the travel schedules of the SSA people. The last ten minutes were devoted to calls and I felt it very beneficial. It was a good opportunity to promote SSI as well as Red Cross.

Visited Reverend Peterson, Volunteer Chairman in Chester. Chester and the outlying areas have a very small population and I don't feel any specific push is in store for that area as Reverend Peterson seems to be doing all one can in an area of that makeup. He has talked to several groups of Senior Citizens.

Went to Havre to cut radio tape for play on KOJM Radio. Visited with Mrs. Plovonic and checked with contacts in Big Sandy and Fort Benton.

- . Spoke to Mental Health Group and the Altrusa Club in Great Falls.
- . Seminar in Helena.
- . Drove 2,095 miles in February.



## OVERVIEW

While feeling that January was the month to start getting established with SSI Alert in the district, February was the month to get the ball really rolling and establish more contacts to completely cover the district.

I feel that as February draws to a close, the district is fully represented with volunteers and contacts in all counties and numerous communities within. The three Indian reservations with the district are now covered.

Approximately 125 mailings were done to all senators and representatives in the district as well as county assessors, extension services, health services, libraries, hospitals, rest homes, cable TV companies in the area and all civic service clubs in Cascade County. Some of these groups were briefed by mail. We didn't expect a good deal of actual response back to our office because of the mailings. Our goal was merely to inform them and ask that a lookout be made for potential eligibles. However, we have received some personal feedback, which is gratifying.

Media coverage this month has been good, in some cases, outstanding. I feel that volunteers now are getting a good grasp for the SSI Alert Project and we are expanding their contacts. Also, closer liaison between myself and the Social Security people has been of benefit.

In this project there are always stones to be turned, but I feel that for the purpose of informing people about SSI, Feb. has been a good month. Seldom do we run onto anyone who has not at least heard something of SSI.

ATTACHMENT

1. TOTAL SSI APPLICATIONS POSSIBLE	<u>692</u>
2. TOTAL SSI APPLICATIONS RECEIVED	<u>215</u>
3. REFERRALS RECEIVED	<u>48</u>
4. REFERRALS SCREENED	<u>13</u>
5. TOTAL 56 COUNTIES VISITED	<u>11</u>
6. TOTAL VOLUNTEERS RECRUITED	<u>21</u>
7. TOTAL VOLUNTEERS BRIEFED/TRAINED	<u>74</u>
8. SSI MAILINGS	<u>90</u>
AGENCIES	<u>48</u>
GROUPS	<u>42</u>
9. TOTAL CIVIC GROUPS BRIEFED/NUMBER	<u>6/106</u>
10. TOTAL RADIO MEDIA INTERVIEWS	<u>2/7</u>
11. TOTAL TELEVISION MEDIA INTERVIEWS	<u>1/2</u>
12. TOTAL NEWSPAPER MEDIA PRINTED	<u>21</u>
13. NUMBER TIMES CONSORTIUM MET	<u>5</u>
14. NUMBER PEOPLE CONSORTIUM BRIEFED	<u>69</u>
15. INDIAN RESERVATIONS VISITED	<u>2</u>
16. NUMBER INDIANS BRIEFED	<u>12</u>
17. TOTAL MILES TRAVELED	<u>2,095</u>

TAB C

GREAT FALLS DISTRICT  
MONTHLY REPORT

MARCH 1974

THINGS ACCOMPLISHED IN MARCH

. Letter carriers in rural areas of Belt, Monarch, Highwood, Simms and Cascade are taking SSI information to potential eligibles on their routes. In Great Falls, this is also being done in two major low-income areas with the city.

. More work was done with church senior high school youth groups within Great Falls with regard to visiting shut-ins with SSI information.

. SSI information available through the volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program at three locations in Great Falls. A similar situation was also carried out in Glasgow.

. Spoke to Senior Citizens groups in Great Falls, Chester, Chinook and Conrad.

. Spoke to parents of handicapped children in Great Falls. Also meeting of Business and Professional Women and FOCUS.

. Visited all Indian Reservations in the district. Things are going very well, especially at the Blackfeet and Rocky Boy Agencies.

. Met and worked several times with representatives of Opportunities, Inc. in Great Falls, updating and helping them with various SSI potential cases.

- . Cut tapes for radio interviews on two Great Falls stations and one in Shelby and Havre.

- . Gave SSI update information to Shelby, Conrad, Fairfield weeklies plus Havre Daily. Also to weekly Eastern Montana Catholic Register.

- . Placed SSI information ads in Chester, Cut Bank, Harlem and Havre newspapers.

- . Made contacts with Vocational Rehabilitation district and local Social and Rehabilitative Services units, plus local Mental Health Clinic.

- . Worked with individual volunteers in Great Falls, Browning, Conrad and Rocky Boy inviting potential eligibles and doing follow-ups on people in Glasgow, Harlem and Great Falls that were denied SSI benefits. Two of these individuals are apparently going to receive benefits after being looked at a second time.

- . Made several speaking engagements for the month of April in Great Falls Fairfield and Havre.

- . Made contact with as many local chapter chairmen throughout the district as possible and informed them of SSI Alert extension and progress.

- . 100 names on Cascade County Tax Reduction List were called. 18 individuals talked to were transferred to SSI as of January 1, 1974. 85% had no comment or indicated their own eligibility. 15% had questions, but didn't tip their hand as to whether they would follow up with the Social Security people.

- . Drove 1,560 miles in March.

## OVERVIEW

The month of March was beneficial in doing some catch-up work on SSI Alert around the district and concentrating on methods of implementation and results as opposed to former introductory procedures. Several communities are, I feel, honestly in a wrap-up process. This is due largely to their small population size and economic make-up. Other areas have given me the same feelings, but I have found that a little prodding was needed by myself to explore other methods so that the volunteers wouldn't lose interest. I think, generally, it has been a good working month.

ATTACHMENT

1. TOTAL SSI APPLICATIONS POSSIBLE	<u>477</u>
2. TOTAL SSI APPLICATIONS RECEIVED	<u>174</u>
3. REFERRALS RECEIVED	<u>52</u>
4. REFERRALS SCREENED	<u>13</u>
5. TOTAL 56 COUNTIES VISITED	<u>11</u>
6. TOTAL VOLUNTEERS RECRUITED	<u>6</u>
7. TOTAL VOLUNTEERS BRIEFED/TRAINED	<u>20</u>
8. SSI MAILINGS	<u>                    </u>
AGENCIES	<u>                    </u>
GROUPS	<u>                    </u>
9. TOTAL CIVIC GROUPS BRIEFED/NUMBER	<u>4/85</u>
10. TOTAL RADIO MEDIA INTERVIEWS	<u>4</u>
11. TOTAL TELEVISION MEDIA INTERVIEWS	<u>0/2 newscasts</u>
12. TOTAL NEWSPAPER MEDIA PRINTED	<u>6</u>
13. NUMBER TIMES CONSORTIUM MET	<u>4</u>
14. NUMBER PEOPLE CONSORTIUM BRIEFED	<u>92</u>
15. INDIAN RESERVATIONS VISITED	<u>3</u>
16. NUMBER INDIANS BRIEFED	<u>16</u>
17. TOTAL MILES TRAVELLED	<u>1,560</u>

TAB D

GREAT FALLS DISTRICT  
MONTHLY REPORT

APRIL 1974

April started out with a hard look at our budget to see that all anticipated expenses could be covered throughout the month. Satisfied that they would, we proceeded to cover areas that needed final work and made preparations to wrap-up.

. A check of advertising rates for newspapers and radio was made within the district. Copy was prepared and sent out or hand-delivered. A total of \$336.48 was expended on the effort. If that sum seems high, I think justification can be found in the fact that (a) we had the funds to do it, (b) SSI applicants seemed to hold and/or climb at this late date in the project and (c) we got some added exposure.

. Comprehensive news releases were sent out to all media in the district, both newspaper and broadcast versions.

. Two radio interviews were made, one in Great Falls and the other in Shelby. Public service spots were pushed on the TV stations.

I visited all Indian Reservations...Blackfeet, Rocky Boy and Fort Belknap. As I've stated in earlier reports progress on the Blackfeet and Rocky Boy Reservations has been good. The workers seem to have a good understanding of implementing SSI Alert. Having not felt particularly good about my contacts at Fort Belknap, I returned and contacted Dorothy Chapman, Public Health Nurse. I elicited her and her staff's support and feel that she is doing a good job. (She was not working in January, February and part of March).



I made several home visits with her to potential eligibles while I was there. The CHR's have material, are aware of the project, have been referring people and have had contact with the SSA representative. My problem was that I couldn't get any communication going with them. I don't blame that on them, for I should have settled that problem earlier. It was a feeling of knowing something was taking place, but always feeling blindfolded when I tried to be specific. Nevertheless, I feel better at this time about that situation and don't feel that we completely struck out.

- . I visited almost all the counties and talked (in some cases, by phone) to all volunteer chairman. I was assured that all had been taken care of and wanted to be certain that adequate coverage had been given to the project in their areas.

- . All media were written letters of appreciation.

- . All volunteers were written letters of appreciation and the volunteer chairmen received certificates of appreciation from the Red Cross signed by Phil Gonzales and William Bailey.

- . Contact with Hutterite Colonies in Cascade and Judith Basin Counties was made. I was graciously enough received, but told "no thank you". Being not extremely pushy by nature and understanding some of their thoughts on independence, I withdrew.

- . Spoke to Fairfield Lions Club and RSVP Grandmothers.

- . Accomplished final wrap-up with Social Security....The Great Falls District Office had high praise for SSI Alert and felt that if it wasn't for our effort, SSI applications would be almost hopelessly lagging.

. Our bookkeeping was finalized and accounts paid up and closed out. The remainder of approximately \$171.00 (See Financial Statement) of funds was turned over to the Division Director.

In summary, I can say that we kept up with the project as much as possible while also phasing out gracefully. I suppose in retrospect, one can always wonder what else could have been done. However, I feel satisfied that we did seem to do a decent job of making the inhabitants of our district aware of SSI and we have proof of success in seeing the actual number of applicants.

The project was gratifying to me in several ways. I am now more aware of what good volunteers can accomplish and am amazed at most Montanans for wanting to help out in a project such as this. I feel that many of the same group of people I worked with would be willing to be involved in other, similar projects in the future.

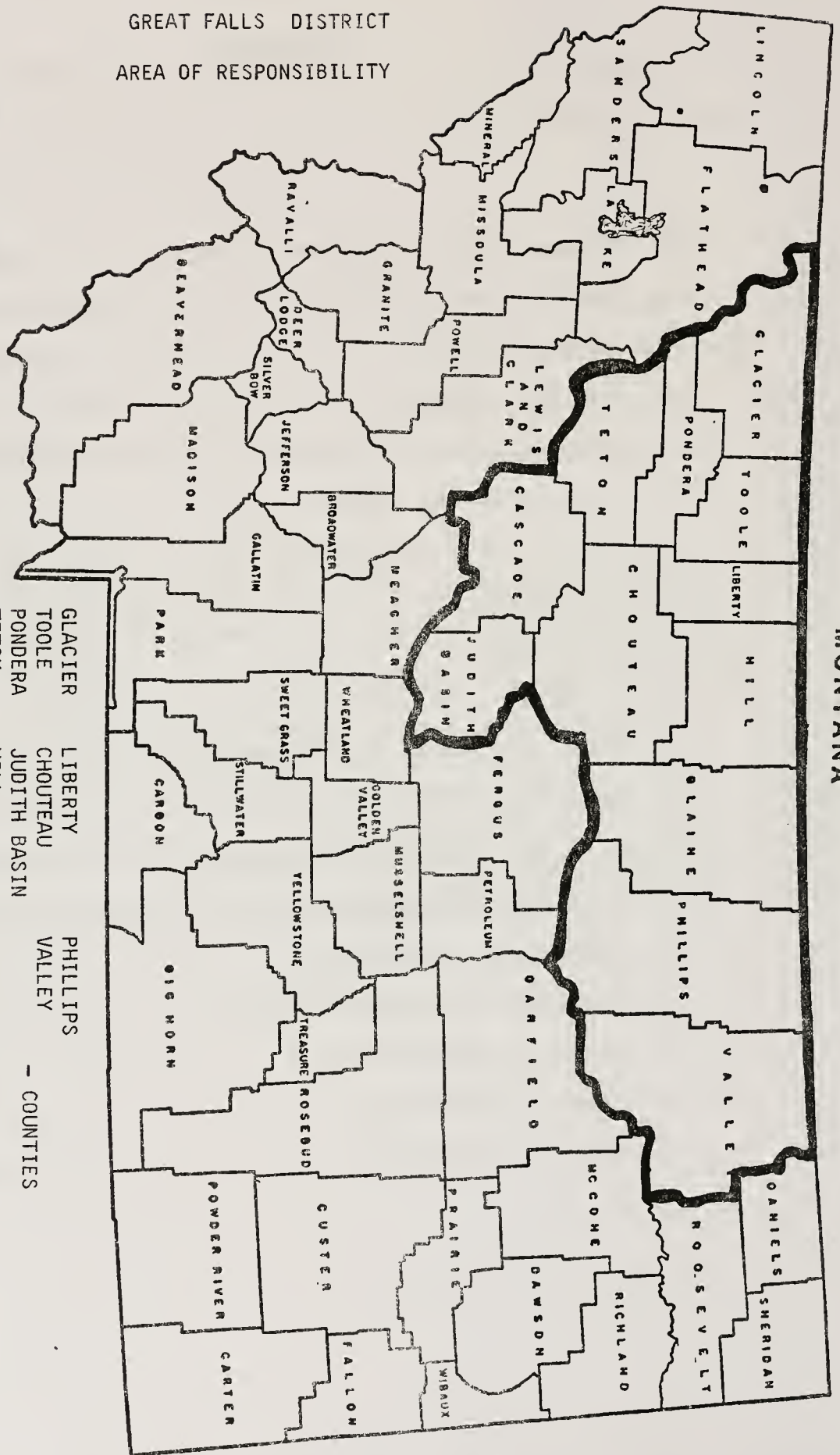
The support and backing of Red Cross people in Great Falls has been tremendous and they have been a pleasure to work with.

ATTACHMENT

1. TOTAL SSI APPLICATIONS POSSIBLE	<u>303</u>
2. TOTAL SSI APPLICATIONS RECEIVED	<u>143</u>
3. REFERRALS RECEIVED	<u>10</u>
4. REFERRALS SCREENED	<u>6</u>
5. TOTAL 56 COUNTIES VISITED	<u>10</u>
6. TOTAL VOLUNTEERS RECRUITED	<u>16</u>
7. TOTAL VOLUNTEERS BRIEFED/TRAINED	<u>12</u>
8. SSI MAILINGS	<u>                    </u>
AGENCIES	<u>                    </u>
GROUPS	<u>                    </u>
9. TOTAL CIVIC GROUPS BRIEFED/NUMBER	<u>2/45</u>
10. TOTAL RADIO MEDIA INTERVIEWS	<u>2/7 newscasts</u>
11. TOTAL TELEVISION MEDIA INTERVIEWS	<u>0/2</u>
12. TOTAL NEWSPAPER MEDIA PRINTED	<u>20</u>
13. NUMBER TIMES CONSORTIUM MET	<u>2</u>
14. NUMBER PEOPLE CONSORTIUM BRIEFED	<u>20</u>
15. INDIAN RESERVATIONS VISITED	<u>3</u>
16. NUMBER INDIANS BRIEFED	<u>8</u>
17. TOTAL MILES TRAVELLED	<u>1,490</u>

APPENDIX I.

GREAT FALLS DISTRICT  
AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY



GLACIER  
TOOLE  
PONDERA  
TETON  
CASCADE

LIBERTY  
CHOUTEAU  
JUDITH BASIN  
HILL  
BLAINE

PHILLIPS  
VALLEY

— COUNTIES

No. 1030 — County Outline Map  
STATE PUBLISHING COMPANY  
Helena  
80 Pads - E - WY

Appendix II

Great Falls SSI Statistics - Jan - Apr 74

1. TOTAL SSI APPLICATIONS POSSIBLE	<u>900</u>
2. TOTAL SSI APPLICATIONS RECEIVED	<u>740</u>
3. REFERRALS RECEIVED	<u>103</u>
4. REFERRALS SCREENED	<u>37</u>
5. TOTAL 56 COUNTIES VISITED	<u>12/44</u>
6. TOTAL VOLUNTEERS RECRUITED	<u>69</u>
7. TOTAL VOLUNTEERS BRIEFED/TRAINED	<u>159</u>
8. SSI MAILINGS	<u>225</u>
AGENCIES	<u>149</u>
GROUPS	<u>75</u>
9. TOTAL CIVIC GROUPS BRIEFED/NUMBER	<u>13/296</u>
10. TOTAL RADIO MEDIA INTERVIEWS	<u>9/21</u>
11. TOTAL TELEVISION MEDIA INTERVIEWS	<u>2/8</u>
12. TOTAL NEWSPAPER MEDIA PRINTED	<u>66</u>
13. NUMBER TIMES CONSORTIUM MET	<u>14</u>
14. NUMBER PEOPLE CONSORTIUM BRIEFED	<u>189</u>
15. INDIAN RESERVATIONS VISITED	<u>3/8</u>
16. NUMBER INDIANS BRIEFED	<u>54</u>
17. TOTAL MILES TRAVELLED	<u>7,015</u>
18. TOTAL INFORMAL DISALLOWANCES FOR SSI	<u>342</u>
19. TOTAL NUMBER OF ESTIMATED PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS IN MEDIA	<u>190 radio</u> <u>65 television</u>
20. RSVP INCLUDED SSI INFORMATION IN 2,000 OF THEIR OWN. 600 IN JANUARY AND 1,400 IN FEBRUARY - MAILINGS DO NOT REFLECT NORMAL BUSINESS CORRESPONDENCE.	<u>Total 255</u>

USING 800 AS THE TOTAL POSSIBLE APPLICANTS,  
WE COME OUT AT 93% COMPLETION - 4/24/74.

ANNEX. "B"

BILLINGS DISTRICT FOUR MONTH SUMMARY

TAB A.....BILLINGS MONTHLY REPORT, JAN 74  
TAB B.....BILLINGS MONTHLY REPORT, FEB 74  
TAB C.....BILLINGS MONTHLY REPORT, MAR 74  
TAB D.....BILLINGS MONTHLY REPORT, APR 74

Appendix I

Billings District Area of Responsibility

Appendix II

Billings SSI Statistics, Jan - Apr 74



Final Report on SSI Alert Program  
For the  
Aged - Blind - Disabled  
- State of Montana -  
1974

ANNEX 'B'

BILLINGS DISTRICT  
PROJECT SSI ALERT  
FOUR MONTH SUMMARY  
JAN - APR  
1974

I. FACTS AND SPECIFIC ACHIEVEMENTS

The four month summary of the SSI Alert Program, Billings District, Montana, was compiled by two SSI Alert District Directors - Mrs. Adele Thiel and Mrs. Hattie Martin. Mrs. Thiel was the initial SSI Alert District Director, who served from 1 Jan - 30 Mar 1974, followed by Mrs. Hattie Martin, 1 - 30 Apr 1974. The Billings District is comprised of 20 large eastern Montana counties, the largest city in Montana and two Indian reservations - the Crow and Northern Cheyenne Tribes. The task of establishing a viable SSI Alert Program in sparse and heavily populated areas, in conjunction with vast geographical space and distances, presented real problems in working with cross sections of urban and rural personalities. Inclement weather conditions and the necessity for travelling long distances to each of the 20 counties, every month, added to the job challenge of the SSI District Director in fulfilling her project duties. Specific achievements, within this time frame, are outlined as follows:

- # 88% of eligibles have submitted applications.
- # 14 volunteers will receive honor certificates.
- # Successful cooperation of Federal Programs for needy and senior citizen, SSA, Red Cross and SSI Alert.



- # Every nursing home was visited.
- # The three Billings TV stations' coverage was very good. Two, five minute and one 30 minute interviews.
- # All radio stations gave repeated announcements throughout duration of project in all counties.
- # Girl Scouts and 4-H Clubs made posters and distributed them.
- # Home visits were made and information given by volunteers in all counties.
- # Handicapped persons were reached through Vocational Rehabilitation and health agencies in all counties. Muscular Dystrophy letters went out to all known cases throughout Montana.
- # Consortiums and key people briefed and trained in every county and were revisited with SSA representatives.
- # Every town of 100 persons and more was visited.
- # Every newspaper and written media, every TV, and radio station in the 11 counties supported and covered SSI Alert.
- # All Senior Citizen groups were briefed.
- # Billings pastors all received information and many had an article in the bulletin. All ministers in other areas were visited.
- # Letters and information went to all civic clubs. Health and social organizations in Billings as follows: Italian Girls Victory Club, Red Cross, Senior Citizen Centers, Senior Citizen Dinners Program, Oddfellows, American Legion Aux., St. Agnes Altar Society, AARP, Memory Club, Oaks Club, RSVP, Retirement and rest homes, Retired Teachers, Retired Federal Employees, Welfare Department, Action For Eastern Montana, City Council, Health Board, Chamber of Commerce, County Civil Defense, Jaycees, Hospital Social Workers, TB Board, Expanded Nutrition, Friendship House, Muscular Dystrophy, Yellowstone Council of Community Services, Jayceens, 4H Club, Girls Scouts, St. Vincent De Pauls, Ministers, Kiwanis, Lions, Home Extension Groups.
- # Inform Public About SSI Alert - Newspaper Contacts: Absarokee, Mr. Garrigus; Columbus, Jay Meyers; Roundup, Norma Jeffrey, News contact; Lewistown, Ester Hill; Crow Agency, Manuella Mesteth, News contact; Forsyth, Florence Sweedland; Lame Deer, Gertrude Silletti, news contact; Hysham, Barbara Kramer; Jordan, Mr. Guptill; Winnett, Mr. R.G. Glatz; Red Lodge, Mr. Alvin Henderson; Hardin; Harlowtown, Sarah Coleman; Ryegate, news contact; Billings Gazette, Rod Ottenbreit and Carol Saboe; Billings Church Bulletins. Radio: KBMY, John Kent; KGHL, Warren Kemper; KOOK; KOYN; KURL; KRBN, Len Pena. TV: KTVQ 2, Bill Aldrich; KULR 8, Earl Barsness and Dennis Sattler.
- # People Trained & Briefed for Personal Contact: Other Organizational Contacts, County Agents, Public Health Service, County Commission on Aging, Vocational Rehabilitation, CHR's, Resource Program, Northern Cheyenne Alcoholism.

## II. COMMENTS.

The following statements were made to certain questions of interest:

a. TRAINING:

The SSI Director attended two - eight hour SSA workshops, geared to various professional groups. They were well planned with numerous speakers and visual aids plus small group discussions. The director collected educational materials and attended a workshop in Great Falls (Dec 73) for specific planning and instructions. The District Director arranged meetings of leaders from Senior Citizen groups in every county and used the SSA booklet as a guide for training. Every Consortium was revisited with SSA field representatives in attendance. Other organizational contacts were made, personnel briefed and trained in the following: County Commissioners, Public Health Service, County Commission on Aging, Vocational Rehabilitation, Community Health Representatives and the Resource Program.

b. PROCESSING OF POTENTIAL SSI APPLICANTS:

The total number of SSI Applicants in the Billings District were 720, along with a total of 617 processed applications from 1 Jan - 30 Apr 74.

c. PROBLEMS:

As described in preceding paragraphs, the prime difficulties of time, distance and weather conditions were only temporary obstacles, which were resolved through diligent and persistent application to the objective of 100% SSI participation. There were instances of poor newspaper publishing of SSI written material in various local newspapers; the reason for this apparent lack of support was insufficient and misguided understanding of the SSI Program. Not enough attention or careful study of the SSI Program, and how it related to the local/state community were made by managing news editors and managers. A concerted effort was made by the Billings District Director to thoroughly brief each dissenting and doubting news

media and encourage their support and release of SSI news material. This was successfully accomplished within the month in which it occurred.

d. EVALUATION OF PUBLICITY:

The value of good and adequate publicity for the SSI Program cannot be over emphasized; in every instance, where there had been an intensive effort and support of news media - there was an upswing in the interest of the people to the program, along with increased SSI applications.

Coverage was very good through radio and television media, as attested by the number of times the SSI message was given in local areas, south central southeast and eastern Montana. An increase in the number of telephone inquiries were received after each television appearance and news release. Good coverage by large and small newspaper and church bulletins brought forth the most inquiries and interest. One half hour television appearance on a state-wide network in April 1974 was a classic example of how SSI publicity should be formulated and presented to the public. The television participants were the SSI Alert Division Director, Billings District Manager (Social Security Agency) and the Chapter Chairman, American Red Cross. The theme was not only to explain the SSI Program to the State of Montana, but to highlight the role of each television participant and the spirit of cooperation/coordination each made to the other in establishing this program. The real credit for the success of the SSI Project was given, publicly, to the SSI Alert volunteer and a plea was made to the public for their cooperation and support to the SSI Program.

e. ACTIVITIES THAT HAVE EVOLVED AS A RESULT OF PROJECT SSI ALERT, AS APPLICABLE:

Bringing groups together for discussion of a common problem led to a

combined community effort that appeared to have been missing in the past. Many elderly people have received an increased amount of attention and visits to brighten their lives. One area has increased the volunteer telephone calls to the elderly. Any project which provides a focus upon the aged, blind and disabled brings their problems and needs to the attention of the public. These people are benefited mentally and physically, because of this public interest.

f. PARTICIPATION OF MINORITY GROUPS:

The identification of groups and number of individual participants as a percent of total participants are all related to Indian groups, which met at 9 communities and whereby 88 people attended meetings - comprising .217% of the total. Within the Billings District there are few Blacks or other ethnic groups. There were a maximum of 2 Blacks and 8 Mexicans in one Senior Citizen Center, .025%.

g. RELATIONS WITH GOVERNMENT AGENCIES:

There is no knowledge of problems with Federal, State or local agencies. Local support and relationship on the SSI Project has been very good and rewarding. The task to effectively work with the Indian tribes will remain a long range commitment and cannot be completed within this short time period. The proposed solution for continued work with all Indian tribes in the State of Montana is suggested in the text of the SSI Alert Division Director's comments and analysis.

h. LOCAL SUPPORT FOR PROJECT SSI ALERT:

Local support and relationship of the SSI Alert Project has been good and rewarding.

i. ASSESSMENT FOR LONG TERM BENEFITS OF PROJECT SSI ALERT:

After careful thought and reflection upon the long term benefits of the Project SSI Alert, the effects of concentrated effort in educating the people of Montana on this project will be remembered for many years to come.

j. WILLINGNESS OF LOCAL SUPPORT ORGANIZATIONS TO UNDERTAKE SIMILAR PROJECTS IN THE FUTURE.

I believe that volunteer agencies and individual volunteer workers will be willing to undertake such programs in the future.

k. SPECIAL EVENTS OR HUMAN INTEREST RESULTING FROM THE VOLUNTEERS/ CONSORTIUMS' EFFORTS:

- # Senior Citizen Dinners Program workers began contacting persons whose names appeared on reduced property tax list.
- # Two proud ladies exaggerated potential sale of small area of wheat rather than appear indigent and needy.
- # A pioneer woman who homesteaded in Montana is now able to meet her own needs rather than be dependent on her children.

III PROBLEM AREAS:

- # Indian people are told not to sign any papers because white people are trying to take their land, so do not want to sign up for SSI.
- # Birth certificates are a problem for some older persons and once turned down, they are reluctant to go back to SSA.
- # People wish that the checks were not a different color, because this causes embarrassment to them. Welfare stigma exists.
- # People in Ashland wish SSA representatives would come there more often.
- # Concerns regarding over payments for back money due and getting no reply if eligible.
- # Some people are still too proud to apply.
- # The report from Vocational Rehabilitation was that people who have been on welfare because of disabilities are having cases reviewed with four out of five being turned down and



the same percentage applies to new applicants. The people have now lost their security because they must report to welfare and re-apply for general assistance each month. The majority of these people are between 55 and 60 years of age, unskilled with the median of sixth grade education, who are no longer able to do heavy work. Some of the disabled can be returned to the labor market, but many seem like hopeless cases.

#### IV. SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS

The SSI Alert Program in this district has met its objective in taking information to every town of 100 population and over in 11 counties, by every possible method of communication and contact. Cooperation was excellent from every source. Our office has received no complaints regarding SSI checks not arriving. Each month, new people have been briefed and the key persons were glad to review the program and felt knowledgeable enough to ask more questions about specific problem areas. The four month period was busy, productive, necessary and went smoothly for our staff. The SSA should now be able to handle the situation.

#### V. SOLUTION TO PROBLEM AREAS

Solution to a newspaper publicity problem was resolved through continued effort by the director. Problems that can be resolved only by SSA officials were presented to the SSA District Manager. Brought to his attention were the handicapped, lack of birth certificates, color of checks, concerns of Indians, more frequent visits to Ashland, and some people too proud to apply.

#### VI RECOMMENDATIONS

I suggest that Indian Service Personnel continue explaining SSI and assist persons with applications. If questions arise, contact the SSA Office for information. The SSA is the official agency to handle handicapped applications, over-payments, under-payments or missed payments. I suggest more SSA talks be made to groups on technical questions.

HATTIE MARTIN,  
DISTRICT DIRECTOR  
BILLINGS DISTRICT  
SSI ALERT PROJECT



TAB A

BILLINGS DISTRICT  
MONTHLY REPORT

JANUARY 1974

I. CONSORTIUMS

Eighteen initial meetings were held with 146 key people of the communities. The SSI program was explained in detail and the local representatives' role discussed.

The Consortiums were made up of the leaders from Senior Citizen groups, Red Cross, Jaycees, Women's Club, Hospital Guilds, Public Health Nurses, etc. The Senior Citizens, as a rule, represented the largest organized groups; also the most willing and active in working on the SSI Project. The role of the Red Cross in sponsoring the project was stressed and it was a real help to identify with this organization initially.

Visits were made in each of the eleven county seats in the district and a few additional to smaller communities enroute, this represented 1,728 miles of driving.

II. SOCIAL SECURITY

A close working relationship has been maintained with the Social Security representatives which has been helpful in being informed on new policies such as using the \$140 and \$210 base now instead of the \$130 and \$195 as was originally planned.

One return meeting was held with the Social Security representative in Columbus on January 28th. It was interesting to note that the people

who attended were eligible needy who had been informed by the members of the consortium. It appears the representative groups will be the volunteer community workers.

### III. BILLINGS PROJECT

The foregoing has described the work in the smaller towns. The project in Billings is more time consuming and will require more skill in finding the needy eligible. To date various organizations have been contacted and informed. The news media have been most helpful with one interview on Q2 TV's "Today in Montana" show, two radio stations also broadcast interviews which to date have aired the program approximately 25 times, and the Billings Gazette published an article. The present aim is to obtain lists of names of the needy in our three categories and then volunteers will be oriented and go out in the field to assist the individuals with their applications.

### IV. NEWS MEDIA

Twenty visits or contacts were made to outlying newspapers, small radio stations and mimeographed news sheets. The editors have been most interested in the SSI and have handled the news release well. We are attempting to keep copies of these articles. So far, we have acquired nine. A member of the consortium is usually assigned to keep us informed.

### V. SPECIAL INTERESTS

We enjoyed our State Director, Mr. Phillip Gonzales's visit to our area and appreciated his helpful expertise.

Two Indian reservations were visited and the workers were oriented on find-

ing and assisting the eligible needy individuals, as well as a thorough briefing on the SSI.

A conference was held with Fran Dixon, Social Services, Indian Health Service and Mr. Gonzales to review and coordinate work with reservations.

No real problem in transporting applicants has been encountered. A schedule of the Social Security Field representative's visit has been most helpful in outlying areas. Some of the remote areas have arrangements for transportation to the central office by a person employed to do this.

The success of the past month in establishing the project has been due to the able assistance and guidance of Mrs. Hattie Martin, Manager of the Midland Empire Red Cross, and the efforts of our efficient and pleasant secretary, Margaret Spiker.

#### IV. PLANS FOR FEBRUARY '74

Meetings in the communities with the Social Security representatives to train volunteers and assist applicants with necessary preparation.

Speaking engagements with various organizations in Billings.

Letters to community workers thanking them for help given and encouraging continued effort.

Training and assisting volunteers in the field in Billings.

Visits to smaller communities.

ADELE THIEL  
PROJECT DIRECTOR

ATTACHMENT

1. TOTAL SSI APPLICATIONS POSSIBLE	<u>800</u>
2. TOTAL SSI APPLICATIONS RECEIVED	<u>252</u>
3. REFERRALS RECEIVED	<u>3</u>
4. REFERRALS SCREENED	<u>0</u>
5. TOTAL 56 COUNTIES VISITED	<u>11</u>
6. TOTAL VOLUNTEERS RECRUITED	<u>52</u>
7. TOTAL VOLUNTEERS BRIEFED/TRAINED	<u>52/52</u>
8. SSI MAILINGS	<u>          </u>
AGENCIES	<u>          </u>
GROUPS	<u>          </u>
9. TOTAL CIVIC GROUPS BRIEFED/NUMBER	<u>11</u>
10. TOTAL RADIO MEDIA INTERVIEWS	<u>25</u>
11. TOTAL TELEVISION MEDIA INTERVIEWS	<u>1</u>
12. TOTAL NEWSPAPER MEDIA PRINTED	<u>8</u>
13. NUMBER TIMES CONSORTIUM MET	<u>12</u>
14. NUMBER PEOPLE CONSORTIUM BRIEFED	<u>146</u>
15. INDIAN RESERVATIONS VISITED	<u>2</u>
16. NUMBER INDIANS BRIEFED	<u>13</u>
17. TOTAL MILES TRAVELED	<u>1,728</u>

TAB B

BILLINGS DISTRICT  
MONTHLY REPORT

FEBRUARY 1974

I. CONSORTIUMS & MEETINGS

Four consortia met with a total attendance of 81. The Billings group was representative of local organizations. Meetings in Hardin, Lewistown and Roundup were held with the Social Security Representatives and volunteers were oriented. Members of the respective consortia organized the meetings and took care of publicity. Their interest in the project was reflected in well planned, active cooperation.

Nine key people in Bridger and twenty in Worden met with the Project Director and were briefed on SSI and volunteers were trained. Nine other small communities were visited and volunteers were briefed and trained.

Letters were sent to 43 volunteers trained in January, thanking them for their assistance and encouraging them to continue the work.

II. BILLINGS

More time was spent working in Billings in February. Five talks were given to varied organizations, additional radio and tv coverage was solicited and a short announcement was sent to 92 pastors who used it in church bulletins, etc.

Five rest homes were visited and the program was discussed with administra-



tive personnel.

Volunteers from the expanded nutrition and outreach workers are assisting people to apply for SSI.

Plans are being made to have the Jayceens work on the project. The St. Vincent De Paul Society has supplied a list of needy people.

### III. NEWS MEDIA

A news release was sent to 13 newspapers and news sheets, thanking the community workers for their cooperation and continued effort.

Billings and Lewistown Girl Scout and 4H leaders were briefed and they are involving troops and their leaders in making SSI Alert posters.

Four additional Radio Stations were contacted and the Cable tv is running some publicity.

The previously mentioned information sent to 92 clergy has resulted in a number of phone calls and referrals.

### IV. SOCIAL SECURITY REPRESENTATIVES

A close working relationship has been continued with the Social Security Representatives and has been most helpful in keeping informed on changing policies.

116 SSI applications have been taken Feb 1 to 21st. There are 26 SSI Alert referrals, 2 of these were screened.

### V. SPECIAL INTEREST



Mr. Gonzales' visit was helpful in clearing up problems and bolstering our morale.

The Red Cross continued to be our "security blanket".

The State Meeting in Butte was stimulating and enjoyable. The enthusiasm of our State Director, Mr. Gonzales, was an inspiration to the district directors to achieve.

The individualistic reports by the district directors were interesting and helpful in an exchange of methods.

#### VI. INDIAN RESERVATIONS

Meetings were held at Crow and Lame Deer in January with the CHR's and other representative personnel. At that time they were briefed on the SSI Program as well as trained to find the needy eligible and assist them with applications.

Letters thanking them for their assistance and urging them to continue the effort were sent to each of these workers in February.

The Social Security Representative reported that referrals were brought in by a worker in Crow, but not the applicants. The Health Educator, who is the key worker on the SSI Project, was notified and she was going to meet with the workers and advise them to bring in the eligible needy individuals to apply.

The Administrative officer with Indian Health Service is the key contact at Lame Deer. She informed us by phone that the CHR's will probably bring the

the eligible needy in to apply when the Social Security Representative is in Lame Deer March 12th.

Mrs. Pretty Weasel, Vocational Rehabilitation Director, Crow Agency visited the SSI office and was briefed on the SSI Program and method of referral. She has close contact with handicapped individuals and will be most helpful in finding needy, eligible, handicapped people.

The total number of people 65 years old and up at Lame Deer is 128 and at Crow 239. Presuming that 50% were on public assistance, we will strive for 100% contact of the remaining 186. A high percent of their handicapped and blind have been receiving assistance.

Travel this month totaled 851 miles.

VII. PLANS FOR NEXT MONTH

Organize in Laurel  
Second meeting in Red Lodge  
Train more Billings volunteers  
Visit small communities not contacted previously  
State meeting in Billings  
Thank you letters to news media and workers.

ADELE THIEL,  
PROJECT DIRECTOR

ATTACHMENT

1. TOTAL SSI APPLICATIONS POSSIBLE	<u>800</u>
2. TOTAL SSI APPLICATIONS RECEIVED	<u>175</u>
3. REFERRALS RECEIVED	<u>36</u>
4. REFERRALS SCREENED	<u>6</u>
5. TOTAL 56 COUNTIES VISITED	<u>9</u>
6. TOTAL VOLUNTEERS RECRUITED	<u>58</u>
7. TOTAL VOLUNTEERS BRIEFED/TRAINED	<u>58/58</u>
8. SSI MAILINGS	<u>          </u>
AGENCIES	<u>          </u>
GROUPS	<u>          </u>
9. TOTAL CIVIC GROUPS BRIEFED/NUMBER	<u>13</u>
10. TOTAL RADIO MEDIA INTERVIEWS	<u>5</u>
11. TOTAL TELEVISION MEDIA INTERVIEWS	<u>1</u>
12. TOTAL NEWSPAPER MEDIA PRINTED	<u>16</u>
13. NUMBER TIMES CONSORTIUM MET	<u>6</u>
14. NUMBER PEOPLE CONSORTIUM BRIEFED	<u>81</u>
15. INDIAN RESERVATIONS VISITED	<u>0</u>
16. NUMBER INDIANS BRIEFED	<u>34</u>
17. TOTAL MILES TRAVELED	<u>851</u>

TAB C

BILLINGS DISTRICT  
MONTHLY REPORT

MARCH 1974

I. MEETINGS AND CONSORTIUMS

Laurel was organized this month with the Senior Citizens and other representative groups, nineteen attended the meeting and were briefed and trained.

Red Lodge had their second meeting. Fourteen were in attendance and the Social Security Representatives gave a detailed account of the SSI Program. The Project Director met with 10 members of the Billings Jayceen Board to outline the SSI Project, the information was then presented at the following general meeting and three members volunteered to assist. They have been trained and are now in the process of making home visits in Billings. A new AARP group in Billings was contacted and a meeting was arranged. 13 smaller communities were visited and volunteers were briefed and trained in each, 3 were revisits to review accomplishments with the local volunteers.

II NEWS MEDIA AND LETTERS

A visit to the Carbon County News revealed a fine article just going to press. The radio station in Red Lodge was also visited.

A 30 minute taped interview was aired on KURL Radio in Billings, March 11th. Letters were sent to 27 news, radio and tv stations, thanking them for their assistance with the SSI Project and stressing the on-going aspect of the program.

Resume on two outstanding volunteers were written and submitted to the state contest.

Letters were written and sent to 278 volunteers thanking them for the work they have accomplished and for continued interest in the SSI Program

### III. SPECIAL INTEREST

Mr. Phillip Gonzales, State Project Director, visited us March 20 and 21st. Plans for April were discussed and he was pleased to have Mrs. Martin agree to be Project Director for the remaining month.

Expanded Nutrition personnel have been most helpful assisting needy individuals, encountered in their work, to apply for SSI.

Workers on the Senior Dinner Program have made 173 SSI contacts.

SSI applications from January 1st to March 20th total 570 in the Billings area. The estimated number of possible applications was 800. It is presumed that 2/3 of this goal will be reached by the end of March. Travel for March totaled 987 miles.

### IV. FINALE

The past three months as Billings SSI Project Director have been interesting, challenging, and rewarding to me. This was due in large part because of the excellent assistance and guidance received from my secretary, Margaret, Red Cross personnel, SSA personnel, State Director, Mr. Gonzales and his secretary and co-workers.

ADELE THIEL,  
PROJECT DIRECTOR

ATTACHMENT

1. TOTAL SSI APPLICATIONS POSSIBLE	<u>800</u>
2. TOTAL SSI APPLICATIONS RECEIVED	<u>175</u>
3. REFERRALS RECEIVED	<u>27</u>
4. REFERRALS SCREENED	<u>9</u>
5. TOTAL 56 COUNTIES VISITED	<u>11</u>
6. TOTAL VOLUNTEERS RECRUITED	<u>48</u>
7. TOTAL VOLUNTEERS BRIEFED/TRAINED	<u>326/48</u>
8. SSI MAILINGS	<u>          </u>
AGENCIES	<u>          </u>
GROUPS	<u>          </u>
9. TOTAL CIVIC GROUPS BRIEFED/NUMBER	<u>3</u>
10. TOTAL RADIO MEDIA INTERVIEWS	<u>2</u>
11. TOTAL TELEVISION MEDIA INTERVIEWS	<u>0</u>
12. TOTAL NEWSPAPER MEDIA PRINTED	<u>34</u>
13. NUMBER TIMES CONSORTIUM MET	<u>2</u>
14. NUMBER PEOPLE CONSORTIUM BRIEFED	<u>67</u>
15. INDIAN RESERVATIONS VISITED	<u>0</u>
16. NUMBER INDIANS BRIEFED	<u>0</u>
17. TOTAL MILES TRAVELED	<u>987</u>

TAB D

BILLINGS DISTRICT  
MONTHLY REPORT

APRIL 1974

I. MEETINGS AND CONSORTIUMS

Two new consortia was organized in Pryor and one in Wyola - Big Horn County with 17 volunteers trained and briefed.

Seven communities on the two district Indian Reservations were visited.

Five original consortia met in Ryegate, Golden Valley, Roundup, Mussellshell, Forsyth, Rosebud, Hysham, Treasure and Billings, Yellowstone counties.

In addition to these, seven counties were visited with 21 meetings and 168 personal contacts.

Three volunteers were briefed and trained to cover the four Hutterite Colonies in Fergus County.

Literature was placed in all communities visited.

II. INDIAN RESERVATIONS

In Busby, talked with key persons and six Indians who had received large amounts from SSA and were concerned. Postmistress called SSA and they said checks are to be cashed.



Talked with key people in Lame Deer and met with Mr. and Mrs. Little Bird and six Senior Diners.

In Ashland, talked with six people and left literature at the post office, the St. Labre Mission and the public schools. This was a first visit and I was frustrated in trying to find key people as everyone was at a "coal" meeting. Talked with two key people in Lodge Grass and left literature at the school and with the postmaster. Literature was mailed to three local groups. The nurse was to visit and inform people but she had quit and no one had replaced her. This visit was not very satisfying because I didn't talk to as many Indians as anticipated.

In Wyola, the principal, his secretary, the cook and three Indian aides, Post Mistress and Mr. Jim Yellowtail and wife were briefed and trained. Of four persons visited, one was receiving checks with three others referred to a worker at Crow Agency.

### III. NEWS MEDIA

State Director, Phillip Gonzales on his scheduled Billings visit made two radio interviews. He also met with Ed Johnson, SSA District Manager, to make a 5 minute tv appearance. Then with John Fleming, Chairman of the Board, Midland Empire Red Cross and Ed Johnson taped a 30 minute tv interview. Three newspaper items were carried in the district during April.

### IV. CONCERNS ENCOUNTERED

Securing birth certificates are a problem for some elderly Indians. There is a high percentage rate of denials on applications submitted by the handicapped.

Gold colored checks are causing embarrassment to people using them. There

is a stigma.

Due to unfavorable publicity that the white man is trying to get the land, Indians are afraid to sign anything including applications for SSI.

People in Ashland feel SSA Representatives should visit more often.

Personal visits to elderly in this district were only fairly successful, but was another method used to locate eligible persons.

#### V. SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS

Planning with the past director was completed and a monthly schedule set up before April 1st. Scheduled visits were made to all but two towns on the list, but visited two not on the list.

Preparing minutes of the March Director's meeting took a great deal of time during the first part of the month, with final reports and closing our books occupying the last of the month.

No problems were encountered pertaining to the SSI Alert Program, but questions and comments were gathered that will be forwarded to SSA District Director for his department's handling.

This was a busy, productive month that went smoothly. Due to the large numbers of applications the first three months, the numbers decreased this month. The SSI Alert staff has achieved its objective and the present areas of concern can only be handled by SSA staff.

Recommendation: SSI Alert be phased out and the SSA Representatives carry on.

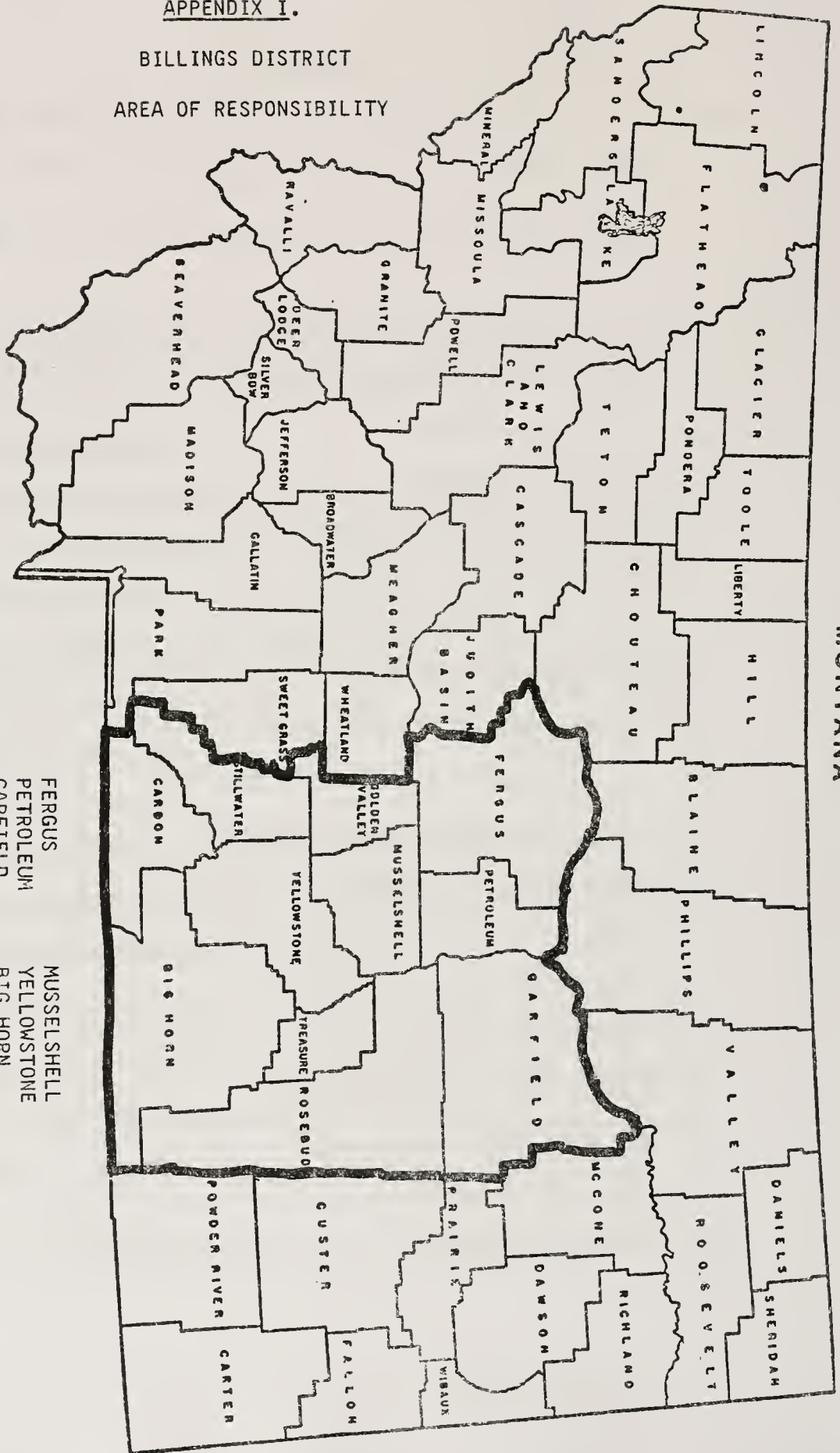
HATTIE MARTIN,  
DISTRICT DIRECTOR

ATTACHMENT

1. TOTAL SSI APPLICATIONS POSSIBLE	<u>800</u>
2. TOTAL SSI APPLICATIONS RECEIVED	<u>118</u>
3. REFERRALS RECEIVED	<u>23</u>
4. REFERRALS SCREENED	<u>4</u>
5. TOTAL 56 COUNTIES VISITED	<u>10</u>
6. TOTAL VOLUNTEERS RECRUITED	<u>59</u>
7. TOTAL VOLUNTEERS BRIEFED/TRAINED	<u>59/59</u>
8. SSI MAILINGS	<u>                    </u>
AGENCIES	<u>                    </u>
GROUPS	<u>                    </u>
9. TOTAL CIVIC GROUPS BRIEFED/NUMBER	<u>9</u>
10. TOTAL RADIO MEDIA INTERVIEWS	<u>2</u>
11. TOTAL TELEVISION MEDIA INTERVIEWS	<u>2</u>
12. TOTAL NEWSPAPER MEDIA PRINTED	<u>2</u>
13. NUMBER TIMES CONSORTIUM MET	<u>8</u>
14. NUMBER PEOPLE CONSORTIUM BRIEFED	<u>208</u>
15. INDIAN RESERVATIONS VISITED	<u>2</u>
16. NUMBER INDIANS BRIEFED	<u>41</u>
17. TOTAL MILES TRAVELED	<u>1,826</u>

APPENDIX I.

BILLINGS DISTRICT  
AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY



MONTANA

COUNTIES:

- FERGUS
- PETROLEUM
- GARFIELD
- GOLDEN VALLEY
- STILLWATER
- CARBON
- MUSSELSHELL
- YELLOWSTONE
- BIG HORN
- TREASURE
- ROSEBUD

No. 1050 — County Outline Map  
STATE PUBLISHING COMPANY  
Helena  
80 Pads - E-WY

Appendix II

Billings SSI Statistics, Jan - Apr 74

1. TOTAL SSI APPLICATIONS POSSIBLE	<u>800</u>
2. TOTAL SSI APPLICATIONS RECEIVED	<u>720</u>
3. REFERRALS RECEIVED	<u>89</u>
4. REFERRALS SCREENED	<u>19</u>
5. TOTAL 56 COUNTIES VISITED	<u>41</u>
6. TOTAL VOLUNTEERS RECRUITED	<u>217</u>
7. TOTAL VOLUNTEERS BRIEFED/TRAINED	<u>495/217</u>
8. SSI MAILINGS	<u>200</u>
AGENCIES	<u>          </u>
GROUPS	<u>          </u>
9. TOTAL CIVIC GROUPS BRIEFED/NUMBER	<u>36</u>
10. TOTAL RADIO MEDIA INTERVIEWS	<u>34</u>
11. TOTAL TELEVISION MEDIA INTERVIEWS	<u>4</u>
12. TOTAL NEWSPAPER MEDIA PRINTED	<u>60</u>
13. NUMBER TIMES CONSORTIUM MET	<u>28</u>
14. NUMBER PEOPLE CONSORTIUM BRIEFED	<u>502</u>
15. INDIAN RESERVATIONS VISITED	<u>4</u>
16. NUMBER INDIANS BRIEFED	<u>83</u>
17. TOTAL MILES TRAVELED	<u>5,392</u>

ANNEX "C"

MISSOULA DISTRICT FOUR MONTH SUMMARY

TAB A.....MISSOULA MONTHLY REPORT, JAN 74  
TAB B.....MISSOULA MONTHLY REPORT, FEB 74  
TAB C.....MISSOULA MONTHLY REPORT, MAR 74  
TAB D.....MISSOULA MONTHLY REPORT, APR 74

Appendix I

Missoula District Area of Responsibility

Appendix II

Missoula SSI Statistics, Jan - Apr 74

Final Report on SSI Alert Program  
For the  
Aged - Blind - Disabled  
- State of Montana -  
1974

ANNEX "C"

MISSOULA DISTRICT  
PROJECT SSI ALERT  
FOUR MONTH SUMMARY  
JAN - APR  
1974

I. FACTS AND SPECIFIC ACHIEVEMENTS

For the past four months we have been busy setting up our office, forming and working with an organization of volunteers throughout the seven counties and one Indian Reservation in Western Montana. Our district covers an area of approximately 250 miles north to south and 120 miles east to west; over 20,000 square miles. The terrain varies from mountains to valleys and small communities to cities. A large wall map of the district helped me to become acquainted with the towns and communities and designate the volunteer coverage by the use of colored pins. This proved a great aid in determining if all areas were properly covered. To get complete coverage a different approach was used in different areas. In small and medium sized communities it was relatively simple to be sure everyone was made aware of the program and those that might be eligible were contacted. The following report outline, by county, represents my approach for a direct insight into my areas of responsibility:

a. North Lincoln County



This county section consists of five small communities, the largest of which is Eureka with a population of 1,195. A chairman, with the help of six volunteers living in all parts of this county were trained and went to work without delay. They reported that all potentials were contacted and a referral form made out for those that might be eligible. I think this area has been well covered.

b. South Lincoln County

This area includes only two communities of any size - namely Libby of 3,285 and Troy. Libby was greatly affected by the floods of late January so efforts to find SSI potentials was delayed. Two ladies in Libby and two in Troy covered the entire area. These ladies had lived in this area for many years and knew about everyone. The local newspaper and radio station were most cooperative and used news items many times during February, March and April. I feel that a very large percentage of the potentials have been contacted.

c. Flathead County

This county presented problems almost from the start. The Red Cross Office was inactive and most persons I contacted during the first month claimed to be involved in other matters and had no time for the SSI Program. I held a consortium meeting on January 28 and another on March 5 without any success in getting help. After many more telephone calls I finally located a lady and man who agreed to team up in forming a group of volunteers for the county. I spent March 20 and 21 training some of these volunteers and I feel that now things are well on the way to an almost

complete coverage of this county even though we got a late start.

d. Sanders County

Part of this county is on the Flathead Reservation. The two largest communities are Thompson Falls with 1,356 people and Plains with a population of 1,046. These and the seven other small communities were covered by ten volunteers that report they have covered the area. The part of the county in the Flathead Reservation was covered by CHR workers living in the area.

e. Lake County

Most of this county is the Flathead Reservation. The county seat and largest town is Polson. Five volunteers cover the non-Indian population and at our last meeting they report that they have covered a large part of their area, but will continue to look for potentials and refer them direct to the SSA Office in Missoula.

f. Flathead Reservation

The reservation is mainly in Lake County but it also extends into Sanders County and Missoula County. Tribal Headquarters is in Dixon but the Community Health Representatives (CHR), work out of the Indian Health Service in St. Ignatius. I briefed and trained nine CHR's, one social worker and one PHN on the SSI Alert Program and supplied them with the regular white SSI referral forms. They started to use these forms and send them in to us but later discontinued this and I understand they started sending the old form direct to the SSA Office, so I have no way of judging the efforts and can obtain no feed-back. For fear of disturb-

ing whatever they are doing I did not press the matter. The head CHR told me another meeting was not needed even though the Tribal Secretary stated he would arrange a meeting. Without any evidence to substantiate it, I feel that potentials are being contacted and referred to SSA.

g. Mineral County

After many phone calls, I finally located eight persons to brief and train and they have been active and productive in finding 46 potentials in the county that have been referred to SSA. They have agreed to continue their efforts to find potentials and refer them to SSA.

h. Missoula County

Our biggest challenge was in the city of Missoula, which has a population of over 30,000. With the cooperation of the local Post Master and his associates, we divided the city into zones corresponding with the mail carrier routes. One or more volunteers were assigned to each zone and was given the name and phone number of the mail carrier in that zone. In this manner all areas were covered without duplication of effort.

It might be interesting to note that 45 volunteers worked the Missoula city area to obtain complete coverage. I was most fortunate in having a chairman that organized and supervised this group in an efficient manner.

Two meetings of the Missoula Consortium were held throughout our active period and a final report submitted to each member. Eleven organizations were represented in our consortium meetings and each contributed helpfully to our planning and activity.

i. Ravalli County

Although we have only three workers in this county, I feel it has been well covered because one is an Outreach Worker devoting full time in contacting the people we want to reach. The radio station in Hamilton has been cooperative in sending out our messages and I think in the near future, the entire county will have been well covered.

II. COMMENTS

The following statements are made concerning key questions most likely to be asked at state/national levels:

a. TRAINING:

In most instances training of chairman of volunteers and volunteers was accomplished in approximately 1½ hour sessions. After the purpose of the SSI Alert Program was fully explained with ample time for questions and answers, the referral form was reviewed and explained in detail. Identification cards were presented to each volunteer and the importance of showing them at the time of their contact with potentials was stressed. It was explained that in some instances those being interviewed might be reluctant to give information in reference to their income because they consider it confidential. The trainees were told that in instances of this sort, they should not insist on this information or feel offended that it was not given, considering that we must respect their desire for privacy. When enough information was not obtained to determine the potential eligibility it should be recommended that they contact the SSA Office direct.

b. AGENCY PARTICIPATION:

In the western Montana District, we have two SSA Offices, namely Missoula and Kalispell. Mr. Kenneth Hook, Manager of the Missoula SSA Office and his associates were most cooperative and assisted in the radio and tv interviews, briefing various groups and assisting in the training of volunteers. Mr. Hook made available to me a set of slides and a projector which I used many times throughout the district.

Mr. Floyd Mikkelson of the Kalispell Office assisted me in presenting the program to the Kalispell Consortium on two occasions and I have reports from our chairman of volunteers in the Kalispell Office that Mr. Mikkelson and his staff have been most cooperative.

c. PROCESSING OF POTENTIAL SSI APPLICANTS:

During the period of our activities we show a total of 299 applications received and 199 referrals received making a total of 498. In speaking with our volunteers, I emphasized that this was an on-going program and their efforts should not cease at the closing of this office. This is especially true in Flathead County and I have been assured that a continued effort will be made to find potentials and they would be referred direct to the nearest SSA Office.

d. PROBLEMS:

Outside of the bad weather conditions in certain parts of this district during January and February, the only other serious problem we encountered was in establishing a volunteer organization to cover Flathead County. After two meetings with the Kalispell Consortium with no results I was

finally able to locate two individuals who agreed to act as co-chairmen of volunteers and have recruited and trained 37 volunteers, which seemed adequate to cover the county.

I did not get very good cooperation and no feed-back of results from the Flathead Indian Reservation and cannot judge what they accomplished, because their referral forms were sent directly to the SSA Office.

e. EVALUATION OF PUBLICITY:

It is difficult to measure directly the results or effects of the many newspaper items, tv appearances and radio interviews which were accomplished throughout the district. It is evident that there were many people not reached by the media and were only discovered through other means and by personal contact.

f. PARTICIPATION OF MINORITY GROUPS:

The only minority or ethnic groups in our district is the American Indians. Many of these are located on the Flathead Reservation, which covers most of Lake County and parts of Sanders and Missoula Counties. A sincere effort was made to reach all Indians, but as set forth above, we had no feed-back from those who were working the reservation to determine how effective their efforts were. It is also impossible to determine the number of participants because of the lack of feed-back.

g. RELATIONS WITH GOVERNMENT AGENCIES:

Our only contacts with government agencies were with the SSA and the Missoula Post Office. Both of these agencies were cooperative and helpful and no problems in our relations with them were encountered.



h. LOCAL SUPPORT FOR PROJECT SSI ALERT:

All of the media included the newspapers, radio stations and tv stations were most helpful and passed on messages to their readers and listeners in a most professional way.

i. ASSESSMENT OF LONG TERM BENEFITS OF PROJECT SSI ALERT:

It is my opinion that many people are being benefited by the SSI Program and many more are aware of benefits of project SSI Alert through our contacts with them.

j. WILLINGNESS OF LOCAL SUPPORT ORGANIZATIONS TO UNDERTAKE SIMILAR PROJECTS IN THE FUTURE:

Yes, I believe the volunteers and organizations which worked so diligently in this program would again work in a similar project, provided the cause and reasons are worthwhile and beneficial to people in need.

k. SPECIAL EVENTS OR HUMAN INTEREST RESULTING FROM THE VOLUNTEERS/ CONSORTIUMS' EFFORTS:

I have no particular special event or human interest story to relate.

III. SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS:

Throughout the district, we enlisted and trained 182 volunteers who operated under the direction of a chairman in each county. Some areas reported a very small number of people that could qualify because of income above the allowable limits. This could be expected where more affluent people are living such as retired people around Flathead Lake and other more desirable neighborhoods. It was easier to locate low income people in the larger communities as they were mainly concentrated in the low income neighborhoods.



We are indebted to many churches, service organizations and civic groups for their help and guidance. Most volunteers approached their task with interest and enthusiasm and seemed to derive a great satisfaction out of their contacting people.

Throughout the Western Montana District, I made twenty trips into eight communities (not including Missoula) to speak to many community organizations and brief and instruct volunteers. The Social Security Agency representatives were most cooperative and helpful in all our effort.

From the reports we are able to obtain it is evident that our efforts have shown increasing results each month and this should continue for some time after our office is closed. The only figures available indicate that as of January 1, 1974, there were an estimated 800 potential eligibles in this district. During the four months of our operation, we obtained 498 referrals out of which we screened out 50. This total represents 61% of the 800 potentials. In the next two or three months there should be an additional 80 to 100 referrals bringing our total to 70 - 75%.

A letter of thanks was sent to each volunteer with a comment that the SSI was an on-going program and the suggestion of how to handle any prospective qualifiers after this office was closed.

In reviewing our operation, I feel that we have been successful in this project with most credit to the dedicated volunteer workers throughout the entire district. For my part, I have enjoyed the challenge and the association with our state leader and co-workers. My faithful and efficient secretary has been of immeasurable help and the Executive Director of the

Red Cross Chapter has been most cooperative.

Respectfully Submitted,

BYRON HESS,  
DISTRICT DIRECTOR

BH

April 30, 1974

TAB A

MISSOULA DISTRICT  
MONTHLY REPORT

JANUARY 1974

I. FACTS AND SPECIFIC ACHIEVEMENTS

In the latter part of December we had a Missoula consortium meeting and twelve people attended representing ten agencies. The SSI Alert Program was explained to them and their assistance and cooperation was solicited.

The first three weeks was spent setting up an office and operation procedures and contacting people by phone in Polson, Libby, Kalispell, Eureka, Thompson Falls, Victor, St. Ignatius, Hot Springs, Lakeside and Stevensville to get chairmen of volunteers. Forty long distance calls were made. During the month I visited five counties.

I visited the Indian Health Service, Flathead Reservation, St. Ignatius and briefed nine CHR's, one PHN and one social worker. These persons cover the entire reservation and seemed willing to assist. They were given folders and referral forms.

I explained the program at an AARP meeting attended by 110 persons. I asked their help in finding persons that might be eligible and received a good response then and at later dates.

A trip was made to Kalispell to meet a consortium there and a group from North Lincoln County. Mr. Mikkelson of SSA, Kalispell, met with the con-

sortium and helped brief them on the program. Their help was requested, but no one had any suggestions to offer or would give me the names of any individuals to help. I trained the group from North Lincoln County and they agreed to start work at once. I went to Libby and established a chairman of volunteers for South Lincoln County, but this was shortly after their bad flood so it was understood that actual work would not start for about two weeks. During the month I traveled 532 miles outside Missoula.

I met with four ladies in Polson and set up a volunteer organization for Lake County.

Mr. Walter Marshall visited this office and I explained our operation and received a list of people throughout the district that might be of help.

Mr. Gonzales spent a day here and we discussed our progress, plans and problems.

Mr. Dickinson, an RSVP volunteer helped set up our books and financial records.

Taped radio messages at KGVO and KUFM Radio Stations. Made one appearance on KGVO-TV. News items were printed twice in the Missoulian.

I felt that we were getting off to a good start in North Lincoln County, South Lincoln County and Lake County, but was unhappy with the reception I received in Flathead County (Kalispell) and decided that this problem must be followed up.

ATTACHMENT

1. TOTAL SSI APPLICATIONS POSSIBLE	<u>800</u>
2. TOTAL SSI APPLICATIONS RECEIVED	<u>No Report</u>
3. REFERRALS RECEIVED	<u>No Report</u>
4. REFERRALS SCREENED	<u>No Report</u>
5. TOTAL 56 COUNTIES VISITED	<u>5</u>
6. TOTAL VOLUNTEERS RECRUITED	<u>17</u>
7. TOTAL VOLUNTEERS BRIEFED/TRAINED	<u>17/17</u>
8. SSI MAILINGS	<u>                    </u>
AGENCIES	<u>                    </u>
GROUPS	<u>                    </u>
9. TOTAL CIVIC GROUPS BRIEFED/NUMBER	<u>1</u>
10. TOTAL RADIO MEDIA INTERVIEWS	<u>2</u>
11. TOTAL TELEVISION MEDIA INTERVIEWS	<u>1</u>
12. TOTAL NEWSPAPER MEDIA PRINTED	<u>2</u>
13. NUMBER TIMES CONSORTIUM MET	<u>1</u>
14. NUMBER PEOPLE CONSORTIUM BRIEFED	<u>12</u>
15. INDIAN RESERVATIONS VISITED	<u>1</u>
16. NUMBER INDIANS BRIEFED	<u>11</u>
17. TOTAL MILES TRAVELED	<u>532</u>

TAB B

MISSOULA DISTRICT  
MONTHLY REPORT

FEBRUARY 1974

I. FACTS AND SPECIFIC ACHIEVEMENTS

Visits were made to seven counties and the Flathead Indian Reservation. The big problem of complete coverage of Missoula, a city of over 30,000, was completed and working zones assigned to forty volunteers. A total of 66 volunteers were recruited and trained throughout the district. 51 long distance calls were made in contacting all field volunteers and the Great Falls Office.

I spoke to a group of indians and non-indians at a Senior Citizens meeting in St. Ignatius. 30 attended this meeting. Many were interested and talked to me about their potential and gave names of others that might be eligible.

I met with a consortium in Superior and Thompson Falls. I spoke to the Key Club at the University of Montana and Hellgate High School to solicit their help.

I spoke to the NARFE (National Association of Retired Federal Employees) at a dinner meeting. There were 65 in attendance. Many questions were asked and they were glad to get information on our program.

Three radio and two TV interviews were held and there were four news items in the newspapers.

Mr. Gonzales spent two days here going over problems and progress. Outside of the problem in Kalispell (Flathead County), all other parts of the district are working well and obtaining results. I traveled a total of 528 miles outside of Missoula.



ATTACHMENT

1. TOTAL SSI APPLICATIONS POSSIBLE	<u>800</u>
2. TOTAL SSI APPLICATIONS RECEIVED	<u>255</u>
3. REFERRALS RECEIVED	<u>59</u>
4. REFERRALS SCREENED	<u>19</u>
5. TOTAL 56 COUNTIES VISITED	<u>7</u>
6. TOTAL VOLUNTEERS RECRUITED	<u>66</u>
7. TOTAL VOLUNTEERS BRIEFED/TRAINED	<u>63/60</u>
8. SSI MAILINGS	<u>          </u>
AGENCIES	<u>          </u>
GROUPS	<u>          </u>
9. TOTAL CIVIC GROUPS BRIEFED/NUMBER	<u>9</u>
10. TOTAL RADIO MEDIA INTERVIEWS	<u>3</u>
11. TOTAL TELEVISION MEDIA INTERVIEWS	<u>2</u>
12. TOTAL NEWSPAPER MEDIA PRINTED	<u>4</u>
13. NUMBER TIMES CONSORTIUM MET	<u>2</u>
14. NUMBER PEOPLE CONSORTIUM BRIEFED	<u>72</u>
15. INDIAN RESERVATIONS VISITED	<u>1</u>
16. NUMBER INDIANS BRIEFED	<u>30</u>
17. TOTAL MILES TRAVELED	<u>528</u>

TAB C

MISSOULA DISTRICT  
MONTHLY REPORT

MARCH 1974

I. FACTS AND SPECIFIC ACHIEVEMENTS

A second meeting of the consortium in Kalispell produced no results, but by the middle of the month I set up a volunteer group with two chairmen. I spent two days there working with them and helping to train volunteers. It was apparent that as a representative of Red Cross, I was not well accepted. There apparently has been some bad experience with Red Cross in this area (Flathead County Red Cross). I visited three counties and had one meeting of the Missoula consortium attended by twelve people. A report was given on the progress of the program.

At the Missoula Manor I spoke to 110 people, explained the program and asked for their help as volunteer workers and their giving me the names of persons they thought might be eligible.

Two TV interviews and three radio interviews were made.

Mr. Gonzales spent a day with me discussing our progress and problems. Now that Flathead County is organized, we have no major problems.

I traveled a total of 503 miles outside of Missoula.

ATTACHMENT

1. TOTAL SSI APPLICATIONS POSSIBLE	<u>800</u>
2. TOTAL SSI APPLICATIONS RECEIVED	<u>18</u>
3. REFERRALS RECEIVED	<u>62</u>
4. REFERRALS SCREENED	<u>22</u>
5. TOTAL 56 COUNTIES VISITED	<u>3</u>
6. TOTAL VOLUNTEERS RECRUITED	<u>35</u>
7. TOTAL VOLUNTEERS BRIEFED/TRAINED	<u>31/31</u>
8. SSI MAILINGS	<u>          </u>
AGENCIES	<u>          </u>
GROUPS	<u>          </u>
9. TOTAL CIVIC GROUPS BRIEFED/NUMBER	<u>1</u>
10. TOTAL RADIO MEDIA INTERVIEWS	<u>3</u>
11. TOTAL TELEVISION MEDIA INTERVIEWS	<u>2</u>
12. TOTAL NEWSPAPER MEDIA PRINTED	<u>4</u>
13. NUMBER TIMES CONSORTIUM MET	<u>1</u>
14. NUMBER PEOPLE CONSORTIUM BRIEFED	<u>12</u>
15. INDIAN RESERVATIONS VISITED	<u>0</u>
16. NUMBER INDIANS BRIEFED	<u>0</u>
17. TOTAL MILES TRAVELED	<u>503</u>

TAB D

MISSOULA DISTRICT  
MONTHLY REPORT

APRIL 1974

I. FACTS AND SPECIFIC ACHIEVEMENTS

Mr. Gonzales and I met with our volunteer groups in Kalispell (Flathead County), Libby (South Lincoln County), Polson (Lake County), Dixon (Flathead Reservation), Missoula (Missoula County), and Hamilton (Ravalli County). I met with our volunteers in Superior (Mineral County) and Thompson Falls, (Sanders County). At each of these meetings the volunteers were told that our office was closing at the end of April and explained how they could continue in their efforts to find potentials. They were also told how much we appreciated their help and given a report on the results of their work and other volunteers throughout the district and state. All counties were visited for a total of 17 trips.

Letters of thanks and appreciation were prepared and mailed to all volunteers and others that helped in the program. A final report and letter of thanks was sent to all members of the consortium.

A great deal of time was spent in planning and arranging for our last seminar and the preparation of final reports and rechecking our financial records.

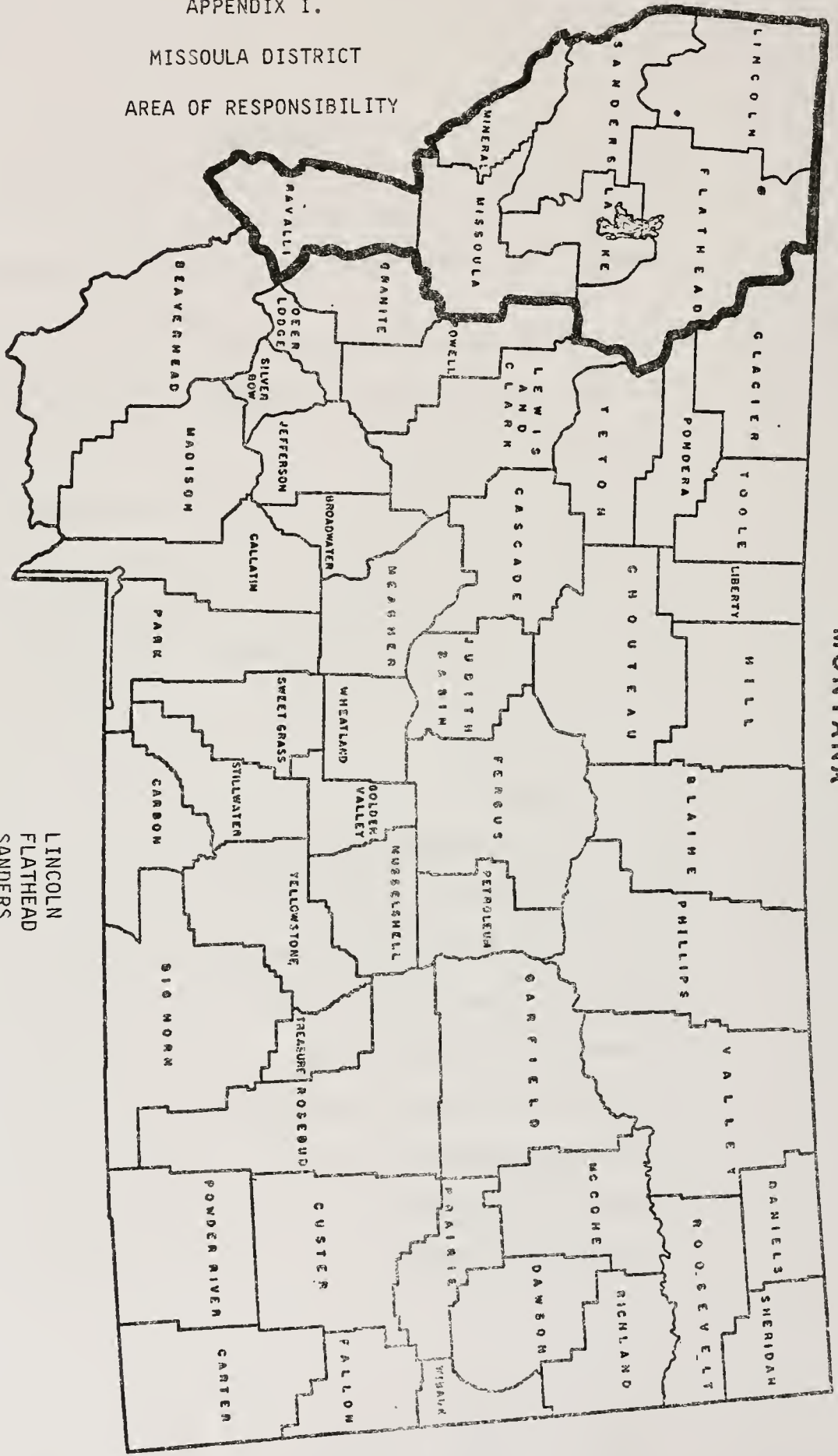
The talks I had with volunteers and others throughout the district confirms my feeling that our project was a big success. Because of the late start in Flathead County and the lack of cooperation there, I cannot judge the results or efforts made.

I traveled 900 miles outside Missoula.

ATTACHMENT

1. TOTAL SSI APPLICATIONS POSSIBLE	_____
2. TOTAL SSI APPLICATIONS RECEIVED	_____ 26 _____
3. REFERRALS RECEIVED	_____ 78 _____
4. REFERRALS SCREENED	_____ 27 _____
5. TOTAL 56 COUNTIES VISITED	_____ 17 _____
6. TOTAL VOLUNTEERS RECRUITED	_____ 64 _____
7. TOTAL VOLUNTEERS BRIEFED/TRAINED	_____ 69/54 _____
8. SSI MAILINGS	_____
AGENCIES	_____
GROUPS	_____
9. TOTAL CIVIC GROUPS BRIEFED/NUMBER	_____ 2 _____
10. TOTAL RADIO MEDIA INTERVIEWS	_____ 14 _____
11. TOTAL TELEVISION MEDIA INTERVIEWS	_____ 2 _____
12. TOTAL NEWSPAPER MEDIA PRINTED	_____ 7 _____
13. NUMBER TIMES CONSORTIUM MET	_____ 0 _____
14. NUMBER PEOPLE CONSORTIUM BRIEFED	_____ 0 _____
15. INDIAN RESERVATIONS VISITED	_____ 1 _____
16. NUMBER INDIANS BRIEFED	_____ 0 _____
17. TOTAL MILES TRAVELED	_____ 900 _____

APPENDIX I.  
 MISSOULA DISTRICT  
 AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY



- COUNTIES:
- LINCOLN
  - FLATHEAD
  - SANDERS
  - LAKE
  - MINERAL
  - MISSOULA
  - RAVALLI

No. 1050 — County Outline Map  
 STATE PUBLISHING COMPANY  
 Helena  
 80 Pads - E - WY





Appendix II.

Missoula SSI Statistics, Jan - Apr 74

1. TOTAL SSI APPLICATIONS POSSIBLE	<u>800</u>
2. TOTAL SSI APPLICATIONS RECEIVED	<u>299</u>
3. REFERRALS RECEIVED	<u>199</u>
4. REFERRALS SCREENED	<u>68</u>
5. TOTAL 56 COUNTIES VISITED	<u>32</u>
6. TOTAL VOLUNTEERS RECRUITED	<u>182</u>
7. TOTAL VOLUNTEERS BRIEFED/TRAINED	<u>180/162</u>
8. SSI MAILINGS	<u></u>
AGENCIES	<u></u>
GROUPS	<u></u>
9. TOTAL CIVIC GROUPS BRIEFED/NUMBER	<u>13</u>
10. TOTAL RADIO MEDIA INTERVIEWS	<u>22</u>
11. TOTAL TELEVISION MEDIA INTERVIEWS	<u>7</u>
12. TOTAL NEWSPAPER MEDIA PRINTED	<u>17</u>
13. NUMBER TIMES CONSORTIUM MET	<u>4</u>
14. NUMBER PEOPLE CONSORTIUM BRIEFED	<u>96</u>
15. INDIAN RESERVATIONS VISITED	<u>3</u>
16. NUMBER INDIANS BRIEFED	<u>41</u>
17. TOTAL MILES TRAVELED	<u>2,463</u>

ANNEX "D"

BUTTE DISTRICT FOUR MONTH SUMMARY

TAB A.....BUTTE MONTHLY REPORT, JAN 74  
TAB B.....BUTTE MONTHLY REPORT, FEB 74  
TAB C.....BUTTE MONTHLY REPORT, MAR 74  
TAB D.....BUTTE MONTHLY REPORT, APR 74

Appendix I

Butte District Area of Responsibility

Appendix II

Butte SSI Statistics, Jan - Apr 74

Final Report on SSI Alert Program  
For the  
Aged - Blind - Disabled  
- State of Montana -  
1974

ANNEX "D"

BUTTE DISTRICT  
PROJECT SSI ALERT  
FOUR MONTH SUMMARY  
JAN - APR  
1974

FACTS AND SPECIFIC ACHIEVEMENTS

a. COMMENTS:

The SSI Alert Program, which began just four months ago, is now in the phase out period. I find myself at this stage with very mixed feelings I feel in many areas there is a definite need for more work while other areas have been completed.

The elderly person has the advantage of looking backward over the greatest part of his lifetime. He has more memories to dwell upon than new experiences to anticipate. Whether or not life has treated him well, he remains a unique individual, to be treated with dignity and respect.

In everyday life each person, especially the older one, reflects the accumulation of his life's experiences. This does affect his attitude, his standard of living, his struggle to maintain his independence, and his ability to live alone in his own apartment or home whether or not he is physically or emotionally able to do so. Regardless of how well life has treated him, he wants, if possible, to be allowed to decide what to do whether or not it is best for his health and well-being. His pride

in many instances makes it difficult to admit he has needs that he cannot meet.

Money, or lack of it, is a very real problem for today's elderly citizen. Some, who planned for financial security for the later years, now find that the ever increasing cost of living has made their fixed incomes inadequate to meet current needs.

Thus, many elderly persons face adjustments related not only to advancing years, physical impairment, and isolation from family members, but also to income insufficient to provide adequately for their daily needs.

This report will bear out the facts and figures what this district office has done to alleviate some of these problems of our elderly, disabled and blind. Our assignment in January was to locate, identify and enroll a potential 1,500 persons into the SSI Program.

b. PROJECT SCHEDULE OF KEY ACTIVITIES:

Activity	<u>JAN</u>	<u>FEB</u>	<u>MAR</u>	<u>APR</u>
Organize Office	x			
Form Consortium	x			
Enlist Media Support	x			
Inform Red Cross Board	x	x	x	x
Monthly Consortium Meetings	x	x	x	x
Inform Dept. & Agencies		x		
Recruit Volunteers	x	x		
Train & Brief Volunteers	x	x		
Initiate Project Objectives		x		
Visit Counties	x	x	x	x
Recognition of Volunteers				x
Phase Out Program				x
Evaluate Program				x

c. JANUARY REPORT

- 1) Formed Consortium
- 2) Enlisted the Outreach Volunteer Support
- 3) Organized Office & Record Systems
- 4) Enlisted Media Support
- 5) Briefed Red Cross Board of Directors
- 6) Visited each of the Six Counties

The local consortium, composed of citizens representing various agencies and organizations, held two workshops. A moderator for the consortium was selected. The members were trained in the mechanics of the program and were trained to go out and sell the program to their various groups.

Began the first phase of the recruitment and training program for volunteers. A volunteer chairman was selected in each of the 6 counties. Each volunteer chairman was asked to recruit additional help and set up a meeting date for briefing and training.

The office was organized with a filing system, necessary supplies, office equipment and the secretary was trained to substitute in my absence.

The local television station was briefed and began to make announcements on news reports. The local radio stations were also contacted and agreed to assist in any way possible. The first series of newspaper articles began in January in four county papers.

A weekly briefing on the project was given to the Executive Board of the Butte Chapter of the American Red Cross.

d. FEBRUARY REPORT

- 1) Volunteer Outreach Recruitment, training and briefing
- 2) Contact various agencies and departments in counties
- 3) Began to actually initiate program
- 4) Continued to brief Red Cross Board, Social Security Director, Consortium and Media.

A concentrated effort began in February to recruit, train and brief volunteers. Every county was contacted. Support came from all walks of life, young and old alike.

Agencies were contacted either by me or the volunteer chairman. These included, Welfare, Local Heads of Government, Community Action Agency, Model City Agency, Region VIII Citizens Council, Community Organizations and numerous smaller agencies. These groups were all briefed on what SSI was and how they could assist our office with our assignment.

Volunteers were now ready to begin their assignment. We used the referral form system, with all forms from volunteers taken, mailed to our office. We in turn took them to the District Social Security Office.

A continued program of briefing continued for the media, Red Cross Board, Social Security and the Consortium.

e. MARCH REPORT

- 1) Follow-up visits with volunteers
- 2) Concentrate on Publicity in each county
- 3) Work on problem areas
- 4) Correspond weekly with each volunteer chairman
- 5) Mailed SSI pamphlet to all retired in Silver Bow County

This stage of the program found things to moving quite well. Many areas I found it was not necessary to visit the area and could then spend time on problem areas.

Samples of news articles were prepared and mailed to each of the volunteer chairman, with release dates on them. These articles were released in the county papers and where applicable on the radio. I made a twenty minute tape at the local television station, which was used throughout a one week period on the local news program. This station reached every area.

At this time, Beaverhead County was progressing rather slowly. The Red Cross Representative from the Division Office and my secretary visited the volunteer chairman and urged him to get the program underway. Within one week 37 volunteers were recruited in the area, a heavy publicity campaign was underway and the area was being canvassed.

Letters of encouragement, praise and information were mailed to the volunteer chairman weekly. We encouraged our volunteers to feel free to call collect if any problem arose. Most problems were minor and were handled accordingly.

Utilizing the retired list of the local United Way Office, a SSI pamphlet was mailed to every person on the list. This generated a lot of response and even though additional help was hired to complete the project, it certainly was justified according to all reports.



f. APRIL REPORT

- 1) Begin Phase-out operation
- 2) Begin letters of recognition
- 3) Work with problem areas
- 4) Visit areas for personal Thank You

The first week in April we began to prepare lists which would be used in sending letters of appreciation to all volunteers who assisted with the project. Files were completed and readied for storage in the Division Office of the American Red Cross. The financial report was prepared and budgeted for the month to insure funds would be adequate.

A letter of thank you was drafted and readied for mailing on April 30th to all volunteers.

As reported in my March monthly report at the seminar in Billings, one area I felt was not being done properly was Powell County. I have made new contacts in this area and the volunteers have agreed to continue working the area and working directly with the Social Security Representative. I have agreed to inform them of the dates of their visit and mail to them any necessary forms.

I have been to four of the six counties to personally thank the volunteers who I feel did such a tremendous job.

## II EVALUATION

### a. Summary of Objectives and Strategies

As a result of the Operational Strategy set down in January, four basic objectives were formulated: 1) seek to enlist the assistance of the media in each community; 2) utilize personnel in the offices of certain departments and agencies to help identify eligible persons; 3) provide a volunteer - supported procedure for receiving, listing and transmitting the names and addresses of persons who are potential SSI,eligibles to the Social Security Administration District Office; 4) provide a focal point for the recruitment, training and utilization of volunteers who will explain to individuals the nature of the program.

#### (1) TRAINING:

The overall responsibility for implementing training procedures rested with me as Project Director. I saw to it that each group of volunteers were given a three hour training session. They were briefed in their assignment, however, they were not briefed in the mechanics of the program. In several instances, a Social Security Representative was present. I saw to it that each volunteer had adequate material to work with and knew who to report to and how.

I felt that the monthly seminars for the Project Directors were most helpful. The exchange of ideas, updating information and financial discussions were added tools to work with the following month.

My local consortium was given two training workshops and unlike local volunteers, they were trained in the mechanics of the program and were able to accomplish the goals set down by the consortium in a successful

manner.

After the volunteer chairman had been recruited, local volunteers were recruited by this person, a training date was set, and I would return then to train.

I felt that the training was adequate in most instances. The volunteers thoroughly understood they were free to call our office for advice on any question they might have.

(2) AGENCY PARTICIPATION:

Our office received assistance from many agencies.

The Executive Director of the Region VIII Citizens Council served as the moderator for the consortium. He presented many programs to local service and civic organizations. He assisted with speech and publicity writing.

The Community Action Agency assisted by supplying office space for consortium meetings, office furniture, volunteer lists for other counties and technical advice.

The Social Security Office was most helpful in every respect. Their people cooperated to the utmost. The local District Manager, attended consortium meetings, was available every time his service was needed, supplied us with necessary material, assisted us with statistics, and all in all did everything possible to help the project be successful.

Model Cities Community Organization assisted us in many ways. When our office needed manpower assistance in our office, this was available from the Community Organization. An employee from this agency served as the

photographer for our office. They supplied us with copy service and their outreach people served as referral source.

The County Commissioners from several of the counties were briefed in the program and all offered their services if needed.

Anaconda Urban Renewal Director, agreed to serve as a referral person to work with the volunteers in his area.

Smaller agencies such as the Alcohol Half Way Houses, Montana Drug Program, Crisis Centers, Indian Alliance, Low Income Groups and Service Clubs all had representation on our consortium, all played an active role in their respective community, and all contributed greatly to the success of the program.

(3) PUBLICITY:

The publicity in my six county areas, I felt was fair to good. A failing of the program in my estimation would be a lack of endeavor for purchasing paid advertising in the initial stages. The response to the large paid ads I submitted this month in four county newspapers was overwhelming.

In all forms of the media the cooperation was excellent.

(4) PARTICIPATION OF MINORITY GROUPS:

Minority groups which played a major role in the operation of our project were:

- a. North American Indian Alliance who had a representative on the consortium who in turn briefed his people. He represented 300 people.
- b. Low Income Groups were represented on the consortium and played

an active role throughout my six county area in contacting and referring members of their organizations. These various groups represented over 500 persons.

(5) SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES THAT HAVE EVOLVED AS A RESULT OF PROJECT SSI ALERT.

Although no concrete activity as yet has evolved, I feel this project has definitely created an awareness of the problems confronting our elderly. Housing, financial, nutrition, isolation, are just a few of the problems our volunteers have faced the last four months.

Pride, resentment, anxiety, frustration, anger, resignation and despair are among the reactions our volunteers have found.

Hopefully through this awareness, more programs designed for the elderly can be initiated at all levels of government.

(6) PROBLEMS:

I have felt right from the onset of this program in January, enough time had not been given for the Project Directors to fulfill their obligation. I feel this more so now as the program is being phased out.

With the inclement weather which we faced the first two months of the program, the floods, one director and one secretary, I feel time was the biggest problem we had to overcome.

Even though statistics show I have reached 100% of my goal, there is still a definite need to continue. I have one area I am very dissatisfied with. I feel another area needs at least one more month of hard work and even

though the volunteers have agreed to continue, I wonder how successful they will be without a director.

The end of the program has come at a time when the entire volunteer organization is just getting enthused and able to get to remote areas due to the weather improving.

When dealing with volunteers you cannot command or demand. You only request. In many areas, repeated visits were needed to get the program off the ground and implemented. With the exception of one area, I feel the volunteers have done a tremendous job in each area.

One other problem, due to the extension of the program in April, we were on a very limited budget. I would have like to have had more funds for paid publicity, volunteer expenses, and additional office staff to handle mail out campaigns. This problem of course was not solved and even though we followed our budget to the letter, we did not have adequate funding for the month of April.

(7) ASSESSMENT OF LONG TERM BENEFITS OF PROJECT SSI ALERT:

Most Senior Citizens were pleased to think the Federal Government was considering some of their problems regarding the cost of living. The program was publicized without the Welfare stigma and was received much better as opposed to the overall comments regarding Welfare Programs.

People were receptive because of the lack of a means test and were more susceptible to considering themselves as receiving the SSI supplement as opposed to abandonment.



Overall suspicion of agencies was lessened or decreased due to the methodology of the way SSI is administered.

(8) WILLINGNESS TO UNDERTAKE SIMILAR PROJECT IN THE FUTURE:

A willingness by the Butte Chapter of the American Red Cross and the SSI consortium to undertake similar projects in the future has been indicated. The consortium has agreed to reconvene in the event the program were to be re-activated or a similar one undertaken.

The volunteers in most areas are dedicated people who very seldom say no when asked to assist with a program of this type. I feel quite certain, if asked to participate again they would respond in the same manner they did for this program.

(9) SPECIAL EVENTS OF HUMAN INTEREST:

People really want independence and are willing to help themselves if provided with the tools to assist them.

One particular example of this was a little lady in the Anaconda area, who without arms, maintains her own apartment in a beautiful manner, does her own cooking, has many hobbies, and who insisted on filling out her own referral form. She was found eligible and has started to receive her supplement much to the delight of all who have contact with her.

### III OVERALL SUMMARY ANALYSIS

Today, we are well aware that we cannot remove all the obstacles that lie ahead for our senior citizens, but we know from the past four months experience that we have made life more worthwhile and pleasant for those



who we are in contact.

I have found that the hours of planning and the devoted service of the volunteers have definitely been fruitful.

In January I was given the figure of 1,500 potential eligibles to identify. As of the week ending April 19th, this figure had been realized. We have now reached 100% of this goal and have surpassed it by 10%. This then proves that the figure given us was low and that additional work must be done to find the deserving individual.

I am convinced that the American Red Cross, through its extraordinary outreach capability, has performed an outstanding service in the overall effort to locate and enroll elderly, blind and disabled persons in the SSI program. Enough cannot be said about the dedicated volunteers who now through their efforts have provided millions of dollars to persons who are blind, disabled, and aged citizens who live on limited income.

Again, we must say THANK YOU - to the many agencies and organizations that have assisted this office in attaining whatever success it has had in the project, by their personal assistance or in-kind contribution. To the following ----

American Red Cross	Anaconda Diners Club
Butte Senior Citizens - YMCA	Social Security Administration
Butte Senior Citizens Diners Club	VFW Auxillary
Region VIII Citizens Council	Marian White Arts & Crafts Club
KXLF - TV	Silver Bow County Health Dept.
Montana Standard	Silver Bow Anti Poverty Council
Madisonian	Butte Ministerial Ass'n.
Anaconda Leader	Ass'n of Retired Persons
Dillon Tribune - Examiner	Butte Youth Service Center
North American Indian Alliance	Alcoholism Service Center
Philipsburg Junior Womans Club	County Welfare Departments
Anaconda Womans Club	Public Health Nurses
Drummond Senior Citizen Group	Norris Postmistress

TAB A

BUTTE DISTRICT  
MONTHLY REPORT

JANUARY 1974

I. FACTS AND SPECIFIC ACHIEVEMENTS

It was just a little more than a month ago that Mr. Gonzales set down a goal that every man-woman eligible for SSI payments be located and identified.

Having worked on Project Find, the Senior Citizens Diners Club and many other programs and projects relating to these people, I have always felt that our aged were the over-looked population of the richest country in the world. However, the fight against poverty is still one of the biggest challenges faced by our nation and each community.

With this in mind I set a goal for myself and that was to do the best possible job even though I had a target date of 90 days.

Typically it took Congress 3 years to write the bill, Social Security Administration had 6 months to complete the assignment, failed, and it was then given to SSI Alert with 90 days to complete.

On January 2nd I began to work officially on my new assignment. Having made ready the office in December, I set my efficient secretary to work organizing it. She has to date, set up a complete filing system, made maps, made signs for each volunteer chairman, ran errands and can very

efficiently run the office since she had played the active part in setting it up.

My first assignment was to set down an "Operational Strategy" for myself. I believe in organization and from past experience doing a job in a slow efficient manner brings the end results sooner and in a thorough complete manner. Keeping in mind the final target date has posed some problems. Weather 30-35 below, floods and to keep a travel schedule to organize and train.

a. Purpose

The purpose of this project is to find as quickly as possible the estimated 2,500,000 persons who may be eligible and to help them apply for their income supplement.

b. My Objectives

(1) Seek to enlist the assistance of the media, in each community, in explaining who is eligible for SSI and how individuals can establish eligibility.

(2) Utilize personnel in the offices of certain department and agencies to help identify persons who may be eligible and to forward their names and addresses to District Office of Social Security.

(3) Provide a volunteer - supported procedure for receiving listing, and transmitting the names and addresses of persons who are potential SSI eligibles to my Social Security Administration District Office.

(4) Provide a focal point for the recruitment, training and utilization of volunteers who will explain to individuals the nature of the program.

c. How Best To Accomplish These Goals

(1) Form Consortium to enlist volunteer support as well as assist with publicity, organize speakers bureau and to give support and guidance to the project.

(2) Select Volunteer Chairman in each community to oversee project in his or her particular area.

(3) To meet as quickly as possible with volunteer groups for training.

(4) Publicity

d. Operation

(1) Consortium - I made a supplemental list in addition to the one received giving recommended agencies and organizations. When this list was completed it contained 18 names. To my surprise 17 people responded and expressed their willingness to serve. Included are:

2 Red Cross Board Members  
Retired Teachers Association  
Senior Citizens National Council  
Senior Citizens Diners Club  
VFW Auxiliary  
Woman's Club  
Social Rehabilitative Services  
Butte Silver Bow Anti Poverty Council  
Butte Ministerial Association  
County Health Nurse  
Association of Retired Persons  
Alcoholic Center  
Montana Drug Program  
Social Security Administration

Our first meeting held was to explain to them the program and enlist their support. Our second meeting explained the mechanics of the program, discussed problems which might arise and had a 2½ hour workshop which was most informative to all.

Progress - Our Advisory Board has decided to meet on a weekly basis.

(2) Volunteer Chairman - In selecting a volunteer chairman for each area I gave this a great deal of thought. This person had to be able to work with me, become enthusiastic about the project and have the time needed to handle the project.

I felt there should be a volunteer chairman in each community not only the county seat.

Progress - We now have a volunteer chairman in each community such as Lima, Anaconda, Melrose, Silver Bow, Dillon, Deer Lodge, etc. One county has not yet been completely organized that being Madison County.

(3) Volunteer Training and Progress - Each volunteer chairman was asked to recruit volunteers. The amount of course, depended on the size of the area to be covered. For instance, Butte now has 12 and Lima 2.

Progress - This office prepared an orientation kit for each volunteer chairman. Included in this kit are:

- 3 copies of newspaper releases
- 1 copy of prepared speech
- 5 examples of how the new law will work
- 1 copy of Social Security itinerary
- 1 copy of names, addresses and phone numbers of all volunteer chairman for referral purposes
- 1 copy of lead referral form
- 1 copy of SSA application form
- 4 pamphlets on SSI
- 3 SSI posters

The reason for this kit is to make the job easier. A volunteer might not have the capabilities of preparing a news item for the local paper. Nor should they be expected to. This kit has been a valuable tool in training.

Generally the more the volunteer knows about his job, the better job he is going to do and the greater his productivity. Efficiency is bound up closely with morale and orientation is a great morale builder.

I have tried to keep the training sessions both interesting and informative and at the same time stressing to the volunteer that he is not to be considered a professional nor should he try to be one.

Therefore, we have eliminated all the mechanics of the program from training. The less the volunteer knows about who or who is not eligible to receive food stamps etc. the better. This leaves less room for an incorrect or misleading answer to a question.

Progress - Volunteers trained in all areas except Madison County. Philipsburg will be trained Friday, February 1st.

(4) Publicity - We have kept the publicity low keyed for many reasons:

# Time - I could not prepare publicity and circulate it with the amount of time left in a normal day.

# We wanted volunteers trained and ready before receiving influx of inquiries.

# Consortium had not till now been prepared to handle publicity assignment.

Progress - Initial newspaper article, local tv, radio stations and local newspapers which have reached nearly every accessible area. Met with local T.V. programmer and have arranged to tape a ½ hour presentation which will have excerpts from it on the 10:30 & 5:00 news broadcast for



one week.

Ministerial Association is putting an announcement in all church bulletins.

Speaking engagements are being scheduled.

All volunteer chairman are doing likewise.

Article sent in to Montana Women's Magazine, which has a circulation of 4,000.

Local newspaper has assigned a reporter to work with the project.

(5) Additional Points:

- # All volunteers are using Identification Cards
- # Have a meeting scheduled with a Social Rehabilitative Service delegate on the consortium to screen a list of names secured during Project Find.
- # Volunteers selected from groups such as: Volunteer Fire Chiefs, Montana Federation of Womens' Clubs, Senior Citizens, Public Health Nurses, Red Cross and Local Service Clubs.

II. SUMMARY

After attending training sessions, conferring with heads of agencies, analyzing the volunteer situation and finally training the volunteers this office has begun serving the potential eligibles in the six counties of this district.

Finding myself at the end of the first month, that being January, I have successfully completed training with the volunteers in all counties with the exception of one, that being Madison County. However, contacts have been made with this county and training will be completed shortly.



So in summarizing briefly, I feel that I still have a great challenge ahead of me and that there will be hopefully enough time in the next 60 days to successfully complete this project and experience rewarding results.

ATTACHMENTS

1. TOTAL SSI APPLICATIONS POSSIBLE	<u>700</u>
2. TOTAL SSI APPLICATIONS RECEIVED	<u>165</u>
3. REFERRALS RECEIVED	<u>5</u>
4. REFERRALS SCREENED	<u>0</u>
5. TOTAL 56 COUNTIES VISITED	<u>6</u>
6. TOTAL VOLUNTEERS RECRUITED	<u>41</u>
7. TOTAL VOLUNTEERS BRIEFED/TRAINED	<u>41/41</u>
8. SSI MAILINGS	<u>                    </u>
AGENCIES	<u>                    </u>
GROUPS	<u>                    </u>
9. TOTAL CIVIC GROUPS BRIEFED/NUMBER	<u>3</u>
10. TOTAL RADIO MEDIA INTERVIEWS	<u>1</u>
11. TOTAL TELEVISION MEDIA INTERVIEWS	<u>1</u>
12. TOTAL NEWSPAPER MEDIA PRINTED	<u>4</u>
13. NUMBER TIMES CONSORTIUM MET	<u>2</u>
14. NUMBER PEOPLE CONSORTIUM BRIEFED	<u>70</u>
15. INDIAN RESERVATIONS VISITED	<u>NA</u>
16. NUMBER INDIANS BRIEFED	<u>15</u>
17. TOTAL MILES TRAVELED	<u>692</u>

TAB B

BUTTE DISTRICT  
MONTHLY REPORT

FEBRUARY 1974

I. FACTS AND SPECIFIC ACHIEVEMENTS.

Today we are well aware that we cannot remove all the obstacles that lie ahead for our senior citizens, but we know from two months experience that we can make life more worthwhile and pleasant for those with whom we are in contact.

One in every ten Americans is elderly. This means 20 million people, many of whom are on very limited income. May it be our good fortune that the volunteers working for the program locate and identify every eligible person.

I have found that the hours of planning and the devoted service of the volunteers are now beginning to show. The "potential eligible" seem to be willing to utilize the program, willing to go make an SSI application and wants to help one another by spreading the word.

Last month I listed as a part of my report, the purpose, my objectives, and how best to accomplish these goals. This month my efforts were concentrated on:

- # Visiting counties previously trained
- # Publicity
- # Office Procedure
- # Recruiting new volunteers

a. Visiting Counties Previously trained - During the last three weeks, I have revisited every community previously trained. During these visits, I worked with the volunteer chairman on problem areas, publicity and discussed the method being used to canvass the area.

Progress - We are receiving the SSI Alert referral form back from every area. Every area has had newspaper articles in their local papers. In most areas the volunteers are speaking to various church groups, service clubs and other agencies.

b. Publicity - I have spent a great deal of time on publicity this last three weeks. Volunteer chairman were asked to do the same in their areas. I concentrated on Silver Bow County primarily.

Progress - The media from Silver Bow County reaches every area I am responsible for. I made a 15 minute tv taped interview. Excerpts from this tape were used every evening for a week on the news and then repeated the following week every morning on the news. I also made a 3 minute tape for a radio station. This is played periodically throughout the day. We have had several newspaper releases. Plans for next week include having a local volunteer and potential eligible photographed. This picture, accompanied by a write-up, will be used in the Montana Standard. Our office mailed out 51 letters to service clubs explaining the program and asked permission to speak to the group. Church bulletins were used in many areas to publicize SSI.

c. Office Procedure - Basically our office procedure was established in January, however, we've had to add to or delete many procedures.

Progress Volunteers were asked to mail or bring in all completed referral forms, to our office. After we receive them, the secretary records name and date received of every referral form taken in. Each volunteer has a record sheet which is used to record this information. By using this method, we can keep track of the number of referrals taken in, and which volunteers are producing results. Our SSA Office has asked that we turn in to them every referral form. We do no screening at our level.

A new procedure started this month in regard to mileage which is the use a new travel voucher. One of these is filled out for every trip and twice a month submitted for payment. A cover voucher totals numbers of trips made, total mileage and total expenses.

For local travel my secretary and I keep speedometer readings and destination records. Each of us has a clip board with a mileage sheet in our car at all times.

I have planned my itinerary to schedule no more than three out of town trips per week. This leaves at least two days per week, for publicity work, speech writing, record keeping and bookkeeping.

d. Recruitment of Volunteers - The one area which I did not reach in January was Madison County. In many areas it was soon discovered more volunteers would be needed.

Progress - In Madison County, the volunteers have now been trained. In the smaller communities such as Pony, Norris, and Harrison the Postmasters were trained. In areas such as Philipsburg, Anaconda and Butte, the need arose for more volunteers. Volunteer chairman were asked to recruit and I made a trip to the area to train.

## II. PROBLEM AREAS

A representative from the Department of Aging spoke to a group of Senior Citizens at a joint meeting of the Anaconda-Philipsburg clubs.

At this meeting the speaker told them to give an income figure after deductions of  $1/3$  of their medical expenses.

This totally confused the volunteers in this area.

Volunteers were instructed to proceed on the same course as they had been trained to do.

The weekly report for two weeks I assumed was proceeding in an accurate manner.

On Tuesday, February 21st, after discussing the figures with Mr. Menghini, it was brought to my attention that there was a great difference on interpreting the report.

Hopefully at this seminar the problem will be rectified.

The consortium meetings have posed some problems. First, trying to schedule a meeting date around a constantly changing itinerary. Most

consortium members I am in contact with at least weekly. They are informed individually about the problems and progress of the program. These people even though many are retired, are extremely busy people. Unless I can clearly see a need for a meeting with a full agenda, I can see no reason to take their time and mine just to say I've had a meeting.

### III SUMMARY

I have found this assignment extremely demanding. The results of our efforts are just now beginning to show. I have many areas still needing a lot of work. Next month I plan to spend time in each of these areas. There have been no major problems in my area. This is not saying there have been no problems, however, they have been at a magnitude to be solved at our level.

The cooperation between our office and the SSA has been tremendous. Mr. Menghini, our SSA District Manager has been extremely helpful.



ATTACHMENT

1. TOTAL SSI APPLICATIONS POSSIBLE	<u>700</u>
2. TOTAL SSI APPLICATIONS RECEIVED	<u>155</u>
3. REFERRALS RECEIVED	<u>91</u>
4. REFERRALS SCREENED	<u>54</u>
5. TOTAL 56 COUNTIES VISITED	<u>6</u>
6. TOTAL VOLUNTEERS RECRUITED	<u>17</u>
7. TOTAL VOLUNTEERS BRIEFED/TRAINED	<u>17/17</u>
8. SSI MAILINGS	<u>                    </u>
AGENCIES	<u>                    </u>
GROUPS	<u>                    </u>
9. TOTAL CIVIC GROUPS BRIEFED/NUMBER	<u>12</u>
10. TOTAL RADIO MEDIA INTERVIEWS	<u>1</u>
11. TOTAL TELEVISION MEDIA INTERVIEWS	<u>7</u>
12. TOTAL NEWSPAPER MEDIA PRINTED	<u>13</u>
13. NUMBER TIMES CONSORTIUM MET	<u>2</u>
14. NUMBER PEOPLE CONSORTIUM BRIEFED	<u>9</u>
15. INDIAN RESERVATIONS VISITED	<u>NA</u>
16. NUMBER INDIANS BRIEFED	<u>12</u>
17. TOTAL MILES TRAVELED	<u>1,292</u>

TAB C

BUTTE DISTRICT  
MONTHLY REPORT

MARCH 1974

I. FACTS AND SPECIFIC ACHIEVEMENTS

a. COMMENTS

With the honor as an SSI Alert Director goes responsibility. To know that I am fulfilling an important obligation stimulates me to do my best. This past month, however though still enthused about my assignment, I have let down somewhat. This has not been by choice but because 5 members of my immediate family have had surgery, been hospitalized, or are under going surgery in the immediate future.

I am able to report some progress which has produced results. My report this month will be by county.

(1) The volunteers of Philipsburg have recently completed visiting over 290 citizens of the area. As proof of their efforts, they mailed us a copy of the notebook recording every person interviewed and their status. Granite County is now recorded in our records as completed. These volunteers did a beautiful job and I commend them for their efforts.

(2) The towns of Pony and Harrison and surrounding areas have been completed. These volunteers also did an excellent job. One volunteer from Pony drove eight potential eligibles into Twin Bridges to meet with the SSA representative. Other areas in Madison County are showing results

and the door to door campaigns will be completed by April 15th.

(3) Deer Lodge County, which Anaconda is the county seat is nearly completed. Again I must praise the volunteers. Two women in Anaconda I must single out. They have organized the area by block, met with every agency and explained the program, handled publicity, arranged meetings for me with various community leaders, handled their referral forms in an excellent manner and I might add they would have been finished by March 30 until I told them we were going through April. Now they want to stay organized to double check their work. One interesting note, they had me scheduled to speak to 300 citizens at a Chamber of Commerce luncheon, however, due to a horrible blizzard and icy roads I did not make the meeting. Fortunately this was not the main program and did not create any problems.

(4) Silver Bow County has been fortunate by having access to all the media, the SSA District Office, the SSI Office and some tremendous volunteers. The Senior Citizens have completed visiting every rooming house, every member of the various senior citizens clubs, areas which are predominately housing the elderly and have visited referrals from our office. Other volunteers from our area have covered particular parts assigned by our office.

#### b. PROGRESS

After mailing out information letters to every agency and service club the response from these was tremendous. Many asked us to speak to members or employees, while others just asked for more information to pass on to members, friends, etc.

We are now in the process of a mail out campaign in Silver Bow County. For

names we have had loaned to us a complete list of retired persons residing in Silver Bow County. A work study student is addressing the material.

c. PROBLEMS

Beaverhead and Powell Counties are my stumbling blocks. At this time I am happy to report the problem in these two counties has been solved and these areas will be completed by April 30th, even if Cindy and I have to do them.

II. SUMMARY

To summarize my areas, I feel my projected figure of 1,500 must be high rather than low as stated previously. Many of my areas have been completed and show the following results to name a few:

Philipsburg	12
Pony	9
Harrison	4
Maxville	3
Anaconda	51

In each of these areas a door-to-door campaign was conducted.

One other area which needs mentioning is how we are scheduling with SSA representatives. When we received the April, May, June travel itinerary it was marked tentative. When we investigated we found that many of the field trips might be cancelled in April. This is due of course to the manpower shortage in our SSA District Office.

To solve this problem, we can anticipate by our referrals, areas which will definitely need an SSI visit, Mr. Menghini will then see to it that a representative gets to this area on the designated day. Hopefully April will bring about a change and no trips will need to be cancelled.

I did have an hour visit with our three County Commissioners. I explained to them the structure of the SSI Alert Offices and our goals. They, in turn guaranteed their support and cooperation.

I did nominate two outstanding volunteers. I found this to be a very difficult assignment. So many were deserving. Concerning both my nominees, I found it extremely hard to put on paper their dedication, sincerity and enthusiasm, cooperation as well as list their many accomplishments in the community. I only wish we could have nominated at least ten.

My travel this month was low, however, my efficient secretary did make several trips for me. Areas I know are well established and showing weekly results I see no real need in visiting. Volunteers do not want to attend meeting after meeting when there is nothing new to report.

This concludes my March report.

WILMA PUICH,  
PROJECT DIRECTOR

ATTACHMENT

1. TOTAL SSI APPLICATIONS POSSIBLE	<u>700</u>
2. TOTAL SSI APPLICATIONS RECEIVED	<u>87</u>
3. REFERRALS RECEIVED	<u>79</u>
4. REFERRALS SCREENED	<u>68</u>
5. TOTAL 56 COUNTIES VISITED	<u>6</u>
6. TOTAL VOLUNTEERS RECRUITED	<u>14</u>
7. TOTAL VOLUNTEERS BRIEFED/TRAINED	<u>14/14</u>
8. SSI MAILINGS	<u>                    </u>
AGENCIES	<u>                    </u>
GROUPS	<u>                    </u>
9. TOTAL CIVIC GROUPS BRIEFED/NUMBER	<u>5</u>
10. TOTAL RADIO MEDIA INTERVIEWS	<u>0</u>
11. TOTAL TELEVISION MEDIA INTERVIEWS	<u>2</u>
12. TOTAL NEWSPAPER MEDIA PRINTED	<u>6</u>
13. NUMBER TIMES CONSORTIUM MET	<u>0</u>
14. NUMBER PEOPLE CONSORTIUM BRIEFED	<u>173</u>
15. INDIAN RESERVATIONS VISITED	<u>NA</u>
16. NUMBER INDIANS BRIEFED	<u>22</u>
17. TOTAL MILES TRAVELED	<u>788</u>

TAB D

BUTTE DISTRICT  
MONTHLY REPORT

APRIL 1974

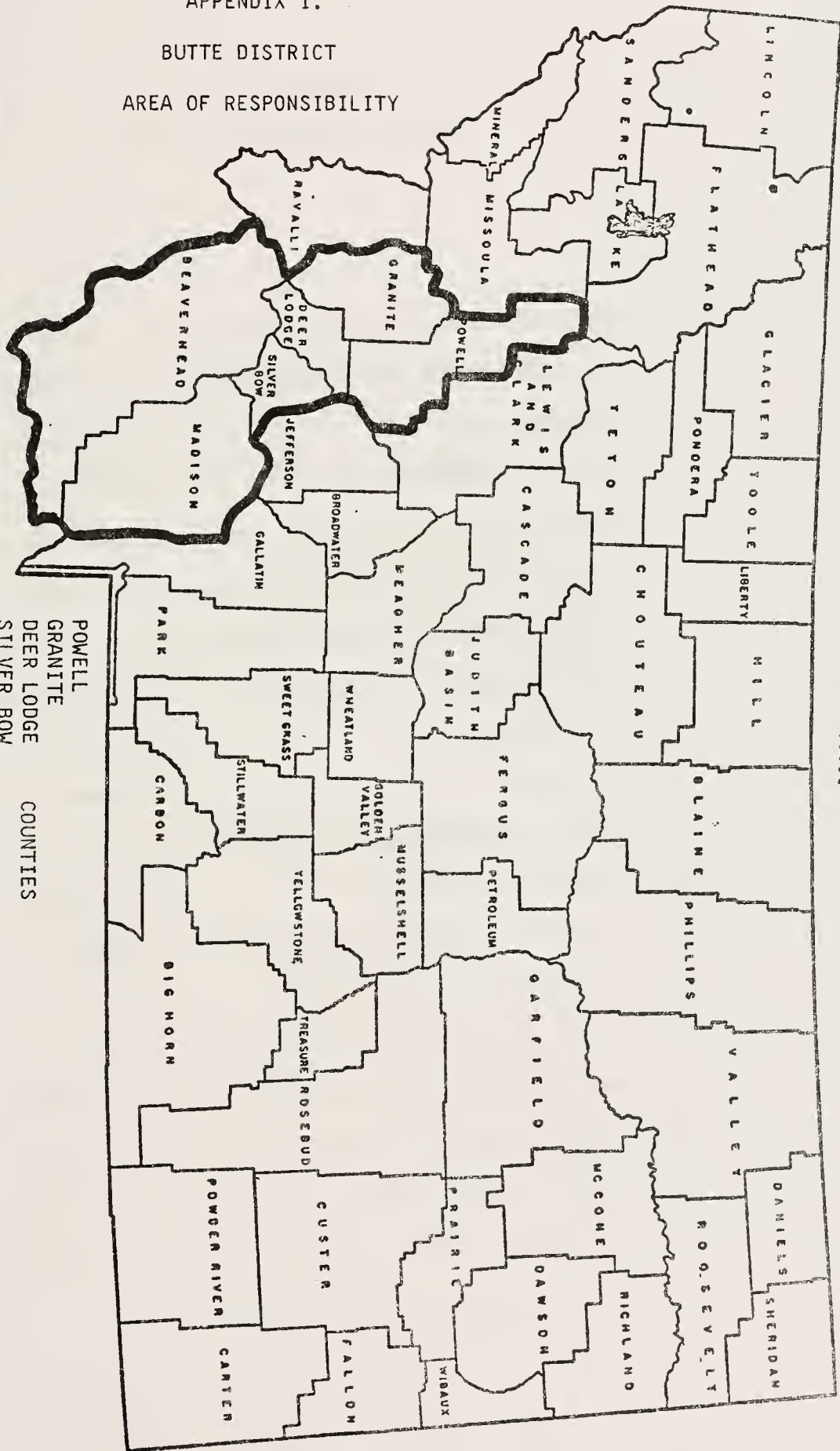
No Report



ATTACHMENT

1. TOTAL SSI APPLICATIONS POSSIBLE	<u>700</u>
2. TOTAL SSI APPLICATIONS RECEIVED	<u>203</u>
3. REFERRALS RECEIVED	<u>60</u>
4. REFERRALS SCREENED	<u>12</u>
5. TOTAL 56 COUNTIES VISITED	<u>7</u>
6. TOTAL VOLUNTEERS RECRUITED	<u>38</u>
7. TOTAL VOLUNTEERS BRIEFED/TRAINED	<u>38/38</u>
8. SSI MAILINGS	<u>                    </u>
AGENCIES	<u>                    </u>
GROUPS	<u>                    </u>
9. TOTAL CIVIC GROUPS BRIEFED/NUMBER	<u>6</u>
10. TOTAL RADIO MEDIA INTERVIEWS	<u>3</u>
11. TOTAL TELEVISION MEDIA INTERVIEWS	<u>1</u>
12. TOTAL NEWSPAPER MEDIA PRINTED	<u>16</u>
13. NUMBER TIMES CONSORTIUM MET	<u>0</u>
14. NUMBER PEOPLE CONSORTIUM BRIEFED	<u>116</u>
15. INDIAN RESERVATIONS VISITED	<u>NA</u>
16. NUMBER INDIANS BRIEFED	<u>17</u>
17. TOTAL MILES TRAVELED	<u>913</u>

APPENDIX I.  
 BUTTE DISTRICT  
 AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY



MONTANA

- COUNTIES
- POWELL
  - GRANITE
  - DEER LODGE
  - SILVER BOW
  - MADISON
  - BEAVERHEAD

No. 1050 — County Outline Map  
 STATE PUBLISHING COMPANY  
 Helena  
 80 Pads - E-WY



Appendix II

Butte SSI Statistics - Jan - Apr 74

1. TOTAL SSI APPLICATIONS POSSIBLE	<u>700</u>
2. TOTAL SSI APPLICATIONS RECEIVED	<u>789</u>
3. REFERRALS RECEIVED	<u>235</u>
4. REFERRALS SCREENED	<u>134</u>
5. TOTAL 56 COUNTIES VISITED	<u>25</u>
6. TOTAL VOLUNTEERS RECRUITED	<u>110</u>
7. TOTAL VOLUNTEERS BRIEFED/TRAINED	<u>110/110</u>
8. SSI MAILINGS	<u>3,000</u>
AGENCIES	<u>          </u>
GROUPS	<u>          </u>
9. TOTAL CIVIC GROUPS BRIEFED/NUMBER	<u>26</u>
10. TOTAL RADIO MEDIA INTERVIEWS	<u>5</u>
11. TOTAL TELEVISION MEDIA INTERVIEWS	<u>11</u>
12. TOTAL NEWSPAPER MEDIA PRINTED	<u>35</u>
13. NUMBER TIMES CONSORTIUM MET	<u>3</u>
14. NUMBER PEOPLE CONSORTIUM BRIEFED	<u>368</u>
15. INDIAN RESERVATIONS VISITED	<u>NA</u>
16. NUMBER INDIANS BRIEFED	<u>66</u>
17. TOTAL MILES TRAVELED	<u>3,685</u>

ANNEX "E"

HELENA DISTRICT FOUR MONTH SUMMARY

TAB A.....HELENA MONTHLY REPORT, JAN 74  
TAB B.....HELENA MONTHLY REPORT, FEB 74  
TAB C.....HELENA MONTHLY REPORT, MAR 74  
TAB D.....HELENA MONTHLY REPORT, APR 74

Appendix I

Helena District Area of Responsibility

Appendix II

Helena SSI Statistics, Jan - Apr 74

Final Report on SSI Alert Program  
For the  
Aged - Blind - Disabled  
- State of Montana -  
1974

ANNEX 'E'

HELENA DISTRICT  
PROJECT SSI ALERT  
FOUR MONTH SUMMARY  
JAN - APR  
1974

FACTS AND SPECIFIC ACHIEVEMENTS

Personnel of the SSI Alert Program, within the Helena District, have been working for the past four months with volunteers and agencies to find and inform potential eligibles of the benefits of Supplemental Security Income. The SSI Alert Project has shown evidence of success throughout the eight designated counties of the Helena District. These counties, namely - Park County, Wheatland County, Lewis and Clark County, Meagher County, Broadwater County, Sweet Grass County, Gallatin County and Jefferson County are comprised of urban and rural communities with the city of Helena representing the major metropolis and seat of state government.

Mr. Ted Larson was initially appointed as the SSI Alert District Director for the Helena District and worked in this capacity until 9 March 1974, whereupon he resigned due to health reasons. Mr. George Eyebel, who had previously served as a key volunteer in the Helena SSI Program replaced Mr. Larson and worked until the phase-out of Montana's SSI Alert Program, 30 April 1974.

A fringe benefit of the Helena SSI Alert Program was the fact that many state agencies and personnel could be easily contacted and briefed on the merits of the SSI Program, thereby enabling the state agency on the blind and disabled to mail out approximately 1,200 brochures to blind/disabled recipients which explained the SSI Program.

It is believed there were more local clubs, organizations and agencies contacted within the Helena District than any other Montana SSI Alert District. This ability to contact, brief and converse with city and state personalities on the SSI Program is due mainly to the long residency of Mr. Larson and Mr. Eyebel in this state/city community. The thoroughness in which every city and county community was canvassed and briefed on the SSI Project is a testament to Mr. Larson's and Mr. Eyebels's intense dedication to the project. Much work and effort was contributed to briefing and training SSI Alert volunteers and, undoubtedly, accounts for the favorable SSI statistics and progress in the Helena District.

No major problems were encountered beyond inclement weather and traveling conditions, yet there were instances and requirements to employ diplomatic relations with key volunteer workers within the SSI Program. Close coordination was maintained between Social Security Administration officials, State Director for Aging and local Red Cross Chapter.

The following comments explain, in a brief and concise form, the many facets of the SSI Program:

(1) TRAINING:

In this district, training was by lecture, question and answer method. This

method was used January, February and March. There was no recruitment of volunteers or training in April as this was phase-out month and thank-yous were said.

(2) AGENCY PARTICIPATION:

United Commercial Travelers, Helena Exchange Club, Helena Junior Chamber of Commerce, Helena Rotary Club, Kiwanis Clubs, VFW, Masonic Home of Montana, Cooney Conval. Home, RSVP of Helena, Helena Senior Citizen Groups, Citizens for Better Community, DAV, Montana Veteran's Affairs, American Smelting and Refining Company, Shrine and Scottish Rite Bodies, Church Women United, Lion's Club, Catholic Charities, Helena Ministerial Ass'n.'

The above list of agencies and organizations actively sought eligibles for the SSI Alert Program for January, February and March. They were not nearly as active in April as they felt they had covered their areas in the three previous months.

(3) PROCESSING OF POTENTIAL SSI APPLICANTS:

Our local Social Security Office reported this date 4/26/74, that this information had been given to the Division Office in Great Falls this morning by phone. Our office maintained the number of applicants by the week for each of the four months and that total is: Applications 417; Referrals 216. We have no record in our office of the date completed.

(4) PROBLEMS:

In January a problem in Park County evolved because of personalities, but this was cleared nicely with correspondence and phone calls.



One Red Cross Chapter (Broadwater County) felt that Project SSI was a Red Cross Project and they resented activity by other volunteers such as the Senior Citizen group.

The Red Cross Chapter in Sweet Grass County knew nothing of the project when our office contacted them, so it was felt that there was a breakdown in information reaching all chapters when the project was underway.

The travel voucher of one volunteer was very much questioned and we were advised by Legal Services to request additional verification. This was not sent to us even after two written requests.

It was felt that the budget was not set up to cover local executive expense and this Chapter solved that by allowing 15¢ per mile.

(5) EVALUATION OF PUBLICITY:

The publicity given the program by our local radio stations was adequate. National TV ads were carried by the local TV station. News releases sent out by Mr. Marshall from the Bureau on Aging were most satisfactory. News items that we attempted to have printed never got to first base.

(6) ACTIVITIES THAT HAVE EVOLVED AS A RESULT OF PROJECT SSI ALERT:

Can't think of activity resulting.

(7) PARTICIPATION OF MINORITY GROUPS:

This was a very minimal percentage. Mrs. Tannehill contacted the Helena Indian Alliance and the various groups therein, and she reported that all eligibles she could locate had been transferred from Welfare to SSI previously.

(8) RELATIONS WITH GOVERNMENT AGENCIES:

Bureau of Indian Affairs, Lewis and Clark County Nurses, Lewis & Clark County Welfare, Broadwater County Welfare, Meagher County Welfare, Park County Welfare, Jefferson County Welfare, Sweet Grass County Welfare, Gallatin County Welfare, Wheatland County Welfare, County Health Departments in all 8 counties, Broadwater County Rest Home, Clerk and Recorder of all 8 counties furnished population information. Montana State Dept. of Visual Services, Social Security Dept., County Extension Agents, all the above government agencies were most cooperative.

(9) LOCAL SUPPORT FOR PROJECT SSI ALERT:

Local support and interest from all civic groups was very good. January and February were peak months, March and April they all felt the ground had been covered.

(10) ASSESSMENT OF LONG TERM BENEFITS OF PROJECT SSI ALERT:

As the cost of living index rises, benefits will be more and more important.

(11) WILLINGNESS OF LOCAL SUPPORT ORGANIZATIONS TO UNDERTAKE SIMILAR PROJECTS IN THE FUTURE:

Community organizations were most helpful at the time the project was first started, seemed to tire of it as they have their own projects they are actively involved in. The Lewis and Clark County Chapter of the American Red Cross is what we consider the main support organization for our area and we do not have a statement from their board as to feelings

concerning future projects that are similar.

(12) SPECIAL EVENTS OR HUMAN INTEREST RESULTING FROM THE VOLUNTEERS/  
CONSORTIUM'S EFFORTS:

Nothing to contribute in this area.

TAB A

HELENA DISTRICT  
MONTHLY REPORT

JANUARY 1974

I. FACTS AND SPECIFIC ACHIEVEMENTS:

The first two weeks of January, 1974, concentration was on setting up the office, organizing work and contacting possible volunteers by letter and telephone.

Two mimeographed letters were used and with these letters were sent the Project SSI Alert application form and pamphlets explaining the program. 83 individuals and organizations were contacted with this letter in Jan. These letters were followed by a telephone contact to answer questions and ascertain that they were willing to work as volunteers for the program.

The next two weeks were spent traveling the 8 counties, making personal contacts with those contacted by letter and phone. Additional volunteers were recruited and speaking engagements were kept. Chairmen in each community was fairly well settled at this time.

The training was by lecture, question and answer method as this was felt to be the most adequate. A representative of the Social Security was present at many of these and contributed answers to things that were out of SSI jurisdiction.

Mr. Walter Marshall, Bureau on Aging, was a great assistance to Mr. Larson by supplying names and introductions to volunteers at the various Senior Citizen Centers in the 8 county area, as well as other considerations.

Speaking engagements were fulfilled 9 times in January, several of which were in conjunction with a Social Security representative.

Mr. Jack Sloan made a mailing of 100 SSI applications from his DAV office at the VA Center at Fort Harrison on January 24th. On January 25, Mr. David Armstrong made a mailing of 100 applications from his office of Montana Veteran Affairs.'

Referral forms received by our office in January and forwarded to Social Security the same day received, totaled 23.

The local Social Security Office reported these totals for the month of January:

Total SSI Applications possible	800
Total SSI Applications received	84
Total Referrals Received	62
Referrals Screened	34

The only problem area encountered was a misunderstanding in the Livingston area with Red Cross volunteer, Miss Urana Clark. This was resolved happily thru correspondence and long distance telephone.

January 28 and 29 were days spent within Helena, contacting people and organizations concerning the SSI Program. Reports and information was gathered to be presented at Seminar I, January 30 and 31 in Butte, Montana.

Total miles traveled in January were 1792.

TAB B

HELENA DISTRICT  
MONTHLY REPORT

FEBRUARY 1974

I. FACTS AND SPECIFIC ACHIEVEMENTS.

The month of February brought about the firming up of the program and results of January efforts began showing. Newspaper, radio and tv ads, in addition to the word-of-mouth promotion, brought inquiries to the office by letter, phone and personal visit.

The 8 counties were again visited, volunteers re-briefed and new volunteers recruited and trained.

The Helena District completed the state-wide mailing thru the Visual Services of 800 application forms and information concerning the program. Plans were formulated to complete a similar mailing for the disabled children through the office of Delores Coleberg, Supt. of Public Instruction, however, this did not come to pass. After all plans and arrangements had been formed, it was with profound apology that Mr. Holmquist (Special Education Department) stated that he had been unable to obtain Mrs. Coleberg's approval for this mailing.

Referral forms received by our office in February and forwarded to Social Security the same day received totaled 36.

The local Social Security Office reported these totals for the month of February:

Total SSI Applications possible	800
Total SSI Applications received	117
Total Referrals received	84
Referrals Screened	22

The February meeting, Seminar II, was held in Helena on February 27 and 28, and time and effort was put forth by the Helena Office to assure a successful and enjoyable meeting. The resume' of this seminar was completed and in the mail to all district directors, division director, etc within the following week.

Total miles traveled in February were 1724.



TAB C

HELENA DISTRICT  
MONTHLY REPORT

MARCH 1974

I. FACTS AND SPECIFIC ACHIEVEMENTS

Mr. Larson resigned as District Director of the Helena District, effective 3/8/74 and Mr. Eybel assumed the position of director. Mr. Eybel has been working as a volunteer for several weeks, therefore, stepped into the job easily.

At the February seminar, information was reported that alcoholics and drug addicts would be eligible for our program under certain circumstances. Meetings were arranged and held with the Outreach Workers of the Alcohol Rehab. Services, whose areas covered out 8 counties. Each of these workers were well briefed on the program and each given 25 applications, pamphlets etc.

The director of the Drug Rehab. Program scheduled meetings with Mr. Eybel and Mr. Larson on three different occasions, each was cancelled due to an emergency in her office.

On March 18, Mr. Larson and Mr. Eybel attended the Jefferson County Commissioners meeting at Boulder and explained the program. The commissioners stated they fully supported the program for their county.

On March 20, the Lewis and Clark County Red Cross Chapter had their board

of directors meeting and Mr. Larson was asked to attend and report on the SSI Alert Program progress. Copy of this report attached.

Referral forms received by our office in March and forwarded to Social Security the same day received were 28.

The local Social Security Office reported these totals for the month of

March:

Total SSI Applications possible	800
Total SSI Applications received	111
Total Referrals Received	42
Total Referrals Screened Out	40

The 8 counties were revisited in the month of March, volunteers rebriefed and new volunteers recruited and trained. Additional forms and pamphlets were supplied where needed. (Travel reports attached)

There are three Hutterite Colonies in this district - all three were contacted and all possible eligibles completed applications. 12 of these applications went thru our office - others were sent directly to Social Security.

Total miles traveled in March were 1168.

Mr. Eybel attended Seminar III in Billings, Montana on March 28 and 29.

(Report for Red Cross Board of Directors meeting, March 20, 1974)

SSI Alert - Helena District - designated as Social Security Group # 4  
State of Montana.

Covers 8 counties:

Lewis & Clark  
Jefferson  
Broadwater  
Meagher  
Gallatin  
Park  
Wheatland  
Sweet Grass

Active chairmen working in 22 communities. These are Red Cross workers, Senior Citizens, Welfare workers, County Nurses, and people in all walks of life who are interested in helping their community and the people in it.

The chairmen in each community in the 8 counties have been contacted three times, initially in January, again in February and again in March. Speaking at group meetings in these communities done at every opportunity.

This coverage required an average of over 2,000 miles of travel each month.

The Helena office completed a mailing to the Visually Handicapped persons over the entire state (800 letters, applications and pamphlets), the cost of this mailing being divided equally by the SSI Alert Districts.

Social Security has estimated a potential 800 eligible applicants in this 8 county area. Figures received by our SSI Alert Office from the SSA computer show 295 received in the months February 1 to March 18. We have no figures in our office for the month of January.

The third SSI Alert seminar, calling together the district directors from

over the state to meet with Division Director, Phillip Gonzales, was held in Helena Feb. 27 and 28. Attending this meeting were representatives from Red Cross, Bureau on Aging and Social Security. The next seminar will be held in Billings on March 28 and 29.

Comments from Bureau on Aging and Social Security representatives were that SSI Alert is working and results are being seen now and results will continue to come in for some months to come.

---

Ted Larson - George Eybel  
District Directors

3/21/74

Travel report

George Eybel, District Director

Canyon Creek: Mr. Will Poepping a little on the sour side - reported two families were reported and information sent to Social Security

Lincoln: Mrs. Vernie Burns, County Nurse - out of town.

Mrs. Edwin Grosfield: Never heard of the program and was not much concerned.

Mr. Dick Swan: Was not stirring yet. Visited with Mr. Jim Fontana, the bartender who handed out two forms, gave him some more.

Mr. Ed Naughton: Not on our side because of the great expense involved. He stated he did not know of anyone that needed our help. He seemed like a public spirited and very popular citizen.

Mr. Sherman Cook: Postmaster, seemed to think that as far as he knew all hands were informed of the program and he did not know of anyone being neglected. He had literature in the rack and I added some he did not have.

Augusta: Spoke to 41 Senior Citizens at lunch and then at the library. Mr. Will Peters gets gold checks and visited about his concerns of getting too much.

Mrs. Mary Allen and Mrs. Sue Hold: were at the library and were part of Senior Citizen discussions. Said things were well taken care of

Mrs. Marchie Buell: Recently retired, is disabled. She was not home, but is listed as a volunteer worker.

Mrs. Bertha Syren: Senior Citizen Center Manager and President

Mrs. Ruby Nett: These two ladies and another were in the Sen. Cit. Center, told they turn their information over to the Soc Sec. Rep.

Mr. Phil Pings: Postmaster, was helpful with information in his rack and pamphlets were refilled and SSI forms left. Mrs. Larry Kane was contacted and her income is in excess of \$200.

Austin: Mr. Bill Craig: Will call at our office for materials.

Marysville: Miss JoAnne Carrington: Checked with Miss C. by phone, she stated Mr. Wade may be in need....

Craig: Mr. Seth W. Brooks, Mr. Gene H. Lesmeister and Mr. Lester W. Smith were contacted and given forms and other literature as well as a briefing.

Miles traveled: 212

---

George Eybel, District Director

To: George Eybel, District Director

From: SSI Alert, Helena

March 21, 1974

Towns scheduled for visit this date:

Lincoln:

Volunteer workers:

1. Mr. Ed Naughton
2. Mrs. Vernie Burns
3. Mrs. Edwin Grosfield
4. Mr. Jim Fontana
5. Mr. Dick Swan

Augusta:

1. Mrs. Mary Allen, Multi-Service
2. Mrs. Marchie Buell
3. Mrs. Ruby Nett, Pres. Sen. Cit.
4. Mrs. Sue Holt
5. Mrs. Bertha Syven

Austin:

1. Mr. William E. Craig

Canyon Creek:

1. Mrs. Earl Wohlfrom
2. Mr. Will Poepping
3. Mrs. E. J. Grady, Jr.

Wolf Creek:

1. Mrs. Larry Kane

Marysville:

1. Miss JoAnn Carrington, postmistress

3/22/74

Travel Report

George Eybel, District Director

White Sulphur Springs: Mrs. Brooke Young appears to head the Senior Citizens group and was quite sure that the eligibles had been contacted.

Mrs. Herb Townsend: Never heard of SSI and was not interested.

Mrs. Russell Edwards: Never acted - gave her SSI Alert forms, etc to Mrs. Jelle.

Mrs. Jeff Doggett (20 miles out of town) and she said she had just returned home from visiting in Miles City, had just received the SSI things with other mail and had not looked at them.

Miss Sheri Schrader: Was not home and could not be located.

Mr. Roy Swan: (Principal of school) never heard of SSI and laughed to beat the band.

Mrs. Bernice Jelle: Turned the names over to Soc. Sec. representative. Contacted Mr. Swan again and he suspected that some youngsters were unable to pay for their school lunch and may have parents who might qualify for the program. Mrs. Jelle agreed to work with him on this, the phone was turned over to Mrs. Jelle and they were going strong when I left.

Checker Board: Mrs. Rux has some folks in mind, forms and literature were left with her to be sent them.

Martinsdale: Mr. Stillman Jones, owner of the Martinsdale Mercantile has very pleasing personality and seemed very interested. He was informed in the usual manner of the program and well supplied with forms.

Marie McGuire, Ass't. Postmaster, agreed to try and do some good for the program. She received a good supply of forms. Mrs. Lynett Crachy, Postmistress was not present.

Springdale Colony: Rev. Wipf was in White Sulphur and he elected to ride with us to the colony. We filled out 2 forms for them and he then agreed to take care of all others as well as another colony, then send them in.

Lennup: Jeanne Tighman, teacher, took several forms. She was entertaining that evening and would tell those present about the SSI Alert Program. She was the only living thing we saw in Lennup.

We had agreed to visit Mrs. Sweeney on our return, in Townsend, but due to the fact it was the dinner hour, we did not stop.

Miles traveled: 231

---

George Eybel, District Director



To: George Eybel, District Director

From: SSI Alert, Helena

March 22, 1974

Towns scheduled for visit this date:

White Sulphur Spings:

1. Mrs. Jeff Doggett
2. Miss Sheri Schrader
3. Mrs. Herb Townsend
4. Mr. Roy C. Swan
5. Bernice Jelle - Welfare Dept.
6. Mrs. Russell Edwards

Martinsdale:

Lenep:

To: George Eybel, District Director

From: SSI Alert, Helena

March 22, 1974

Towns scheduled for visit this date:

White Sulphur Spings:

1. Mrs. Jeff Doggett
2. Miss Sheri Schrader
3. Mrs. Herb Townsend
4. Mr. Roy C. Swan
5. Bernice Jelle - Welfare Dept.
6. Mrs. Russell Edwards

Martinsdale:

Lenep:

3/25/74

Office Report:

George Eybel, District Director

Wrote report on Friday Trip

Great Falls called - talked to Kathy & Mr. Gonzales

Called Mr. Linden, Thriftway and Brackman's

Called Mrs. Galoge for Monday report

Called Kathy and gave Monday report

Called David Wipt of Springdale Colony. (547-3440) Gave him information on SSI Alert. He stated all persons eligible were already receiving SSI. I told him to get in touch with Mrs. Jelle and she would supply information and forms. Ted said to mail them so this was done.

Eli Duncan at Two Dot was informed that Rev. John Wipf has the SSI forms for his group (632-4106).

Mrs. Nordale was to have been in the office at 11:00, but she failed to appear. Ted waited for her arrival.

3/26/74

Office Report:

George Eybel, District Director

Called Bill Craig at Austin. He cannot think of anyone who might qualify. He asked many questions about the program and will help out whenever called upon.

Called Tom Shanks at York, he reports everyone he has talked to in his area is doing okay.

7 SSI applications received from Hutterite Colonies.

Called Bud Oleson (Bud & Zon's) He stated he is not interested in any program such as this....

Had a 25 minute conversation with Miss JoAnn Carrington, Postmistress of Marysville. Mr. Wade is not doing well and his sight is very bad and he is feeble, 92 years old. Asked her to try and get him to sign an application. Oscar Hoveland is at Fort Harrison, has wife and youngsters. She will talk with Mrs. Hoveland today. Also there is a Mrs. Bishop, she is past 60 and unable to hold a regular job so Miss Carrington will contact her.

Talked to 45 Senior Citizens at lunch at the Center, answered many questions.

Mrs. Sternberg came in at 12:30, she just sold her home, so SS and savings too great at this time.

Pearl Middlestead, Marguerite Lombard, Verla Dittmer came in and got information. They were not eligible because of savings.

3/27/74

Office Report:

George Eybel, District Director

Mrs. Forbes called and reported her son was doing better. She was informed the office would be closed Thursday and Friday because of the seminar in Billings.

Rocky Mountain Development Company, Room 214 (Mrs. Wild and Mrs. Lapier) wanted information on the program. Supplied the information and usual pamphlets.

Received a check from American Red Cross, Div. Director office for 1/6 share of Visual Mailing.

Talked to 80 Senior Citizens, informing them the program will soon end and urging them to contact eligibles.

Mr. Linden in the office and stated office will close March 31 and about 10 days will be allowed for shut-down. Phone will be disconnected April 15, however, the office will be closed down effective noon, April 12.

Ted called in that his cold was bad and he was not going to Billings.

Kathy called to inquire about the Forbes' family.

3/28 and 29/74

Travel Report

George Eybel, District Director

3/28 Left Helena at approximately 6:00 A.M. The SSI Alert Seminar was called to order on time. The business was held Thursday afternoon and Friday morning and adjourned after the 1:00 P.M. luncheon at the airport. 3/29.

Big Timber: Visited Big Timber on the return trip. The hour was a bit late and most of the folks were anxious to get out of their offices for the weekend. Mrs. Margaret Raihl was not in the area at that time. Mel Goosey is a WW I vet and reported not in the best of health. Olaf Brekke is the County Extension Agent, was out of town. I talked to his secretary, explained the program to her and left forms and pamphlets. Forest Keller, Adj. of American Legion and Club Steward, says he has too many things to do and wants no part of the program. He did agree to tell the members about the program at the next meeting. Left forms and pamphlets and he agreed to pass them out. Mrs. Henry Elgin, Red Cross lady and deputy sheriff, received 40 SSI Alert forms in January. She mailed them out to people she thought might be interested. I asked her about the list and she was not able to give me this. She asked about the load at Soc. Sec. as their fieldman visits in Big Timber and the forms are turned in to him.

Miles Traveled: 502

---

George Eybel, Dist. Dir.

TAB D

HELENA DISTRICT  
MONTHLY REPORT

APRIL 1974

I. FACTS AND SPECIFIC ACHIEVEMENTS

The fourth and final visit to all the communities was completed in April, as follows:

- April 3: White Sulphur Spings, Martinsdale, Two Dot, Harlowton, Big Timber, Livingston and Bozeman.
- April 4: East Helena, Townsend, Toston, Radersburg, Three Forks, Willow Creek, Trident & Logan.
- April 8: Boulder, Basin, Cardwell, Whitehall, Jefferson City and Clancy.

Volunteers in Lewis and Clark County were mainly contacted this month by telephone. All volunteers contacted, in all areas, were thanked for their time and efforts. In some instances additional applications were left for future referrals. Daily reports attached.

Referral forms received by our office in April and forwarded to Social Security the same day received were 6.

The local Social Security office reported these totals for the month of April:

Total SSI Applications possible	800
Total SSI Applications received	105
Total Referrals Received	28
Referrals Screened Out	15

Thank you letters were written to the 161 volunteer workers who have so successfully covered out district.

The week of April 22 to 26 was spent in formulating information and completing reports, etc. in preparation for the Seminar IV, which will be held in Missoula on April 29,30 and May 1.

An inventory of office items turned to Lewis and Clark County Chapter American Red Cross was completed on 4/26/74.

Upon closing this office, it should be noted that of the mailing of 800 through Visual Services, there has been a return of 65 unclaimed letters. This is somewhat less than the 10% return anticipated by Mr. Marshall.

Volunteer travel expense was allowed to several chairmen and vouchers and reasonable expenses were received from Mrs. Mary Holter. Mrs. Margaret Raihl, Livingston, vouchered expenses without verification and she did not reply to our several requests that she forward this to our office. The Legal Services Office advised non payment until Mrs. Raihl furnished the requested verification.

Total miles traveled in April were 1,217.



4/3/74

II Travel Report

George Eybel, District Director

On dates indicated, I contacted many persons in the following towns on the SSI Program:

White Sulphur Springs; Mrs. Bernice Jelle was at the doctor so unable to talk to her. Left her a note saying no more travel expense could be allowed.

Martinsdale: Mrs. Lynett Crachy, postmistress and Mr. Stillman Jones of the Mercantile have two prospects they feel would qualify but claim to be getting by on the money they now receive so did not care to apply for SSI benefits. Mr. Jones will have some relatives or close friends talk to them.

Two Dot: The only business we could find was a bar, talked to Mr. Crowley the manager who has lived a lifetime in the community and said he did not know of anyone who would qualify. Talked to several members of the Hutterite Colony who informed me all the colonies have been covered.

Harlowton: Mrs. Bobbye Johnson of the Welfare Dept. has been turning forms to the Social Security rep., Mr. Hule, She has some new leads in the last few days and will do the same with them. Mrs. C. A. Buckley reported she has contacted approximately 75 and according to Mr. Johnson, several have qualified. Mrs. Buckley was informed there would be no further travel expense available to volunteers. Volunteer workers under the direction of Mrs. Buckley have done an outstanding job. Mrs. Buckley reported on coverage of Judith Gap and Shawmut. County Commissioner Roy Brewington contacted.

Big Timber: Sandy Smiley, social worker, and Mrs. Brooke were given briefing and applications and pamphlets. Mr. Don Titlie, ASCA received a very thorough briefing and asked many in-depth questions. He is more than happy to work with the program. Mrs. Mel Goosey said this was the first she had heard of the program, was given materials and will work.

Livingston: Tried many, many times to reach Mrs. Margaret Raihl but was never able to make contact. Left message that the travel etc. fund was no longer available to volunteers. Miss Urana Clark was giving a music lesson so our telephone conversation was brief. She reported all going well, her contacts turning applications over to Soc. Sec. Working mostly thru the school and Sen. Cit. Mrs. Lilly Mae Robinson of the liquor store had not heard of the program, was briefed and information left with applications. Mrs. Alice Erdmann, Livingston Enterprise will print news item for us. Mrs. Petrich is friend of Miss Clarks and provides

transportation for people needing it.

Bozeman: Mrs. Mary Holter said she believes they have had over 200 signed. The American Legion Auxiliary is covering Manhattan, Belgrade, Bozeman and Amsterdam very thoroughly.

Miles Traveled: 359

---

George Eybel, District Director

To: George Eybel, District Director

From: SSI Alert, Helena

April 3, 1974

Towns scheduled for visit this date:

Harlowton:

1. Mrs. C. A. Buckley, chairman (114 C Ave. SE)
2. Mrs. Dorothy Edson, Sr. Cit. Center (25 - 3 NW)
3. Mrs. Bobbye Johnson, Welfare Dept.
4. Mrs. Pat Watson, Welfare Dept.
5. Mrs. Ann Benson, 23 - 3 NE
6. Mr. Murray Meyers, 104 D Ave. NW
7. Mr. Hal Stearns, 216 C Ave. SE
8. Mr. Orton Ortwein, 303 A Ave. NW
9. Mr. Miller, Harlowton Times, 111 So. Central Ave.
10. Mrs. Joyce Massing
11. Mrs. Helen Scotson, 506 Division

Judith Gap:

1. Mrs. C. A. Buckley - Harlowton - chairman
2. Mrs. Phyllis McClanahan - Gen. Store
3. Mrs. Helen Butosky - Gen. Store
4. Mrs. Helen Olson - Gen. Store
5. Mrs. Mable Haynes

Shamut:

1. Bobette Cass

Big Timber:

1. Mrs. Margaret Raihl, Livingston, Chairman
2. Mrs. Henry Elgin
3. Mrs. Forrest Keller
4. Mrs. Olfa J. Brekke
5. Mrs. Mel Goosey

Livingston:

1. Miss Urana Clark, 9 St. Island
2. Mrs. Margaret Raihl, 120 So. G.
3. Mrs. Dennis Tang, 115 West Chinooke
4. Mrs. Thelma Dunn
5. Mrs. Sophie Sundling, Welfare Dept.
6. Mr. Jerry Spaulding, 220 S. 3rd
7. Mr. Gene Surber
8. Mr. Robert Olson
9. Miss Mary Dow Anerson
10. Mrs. Lilly May Robinson
11. Mrs. Alice Erdmann
12. Vicki Ullman
13. Mrs. Carolyn Alverson, 603 E. Montana
14. Mrs. William Tinsdale

4/4/74

East Helena: Mr. Wilber Bartell, Postmaster, nothing new to report, needed some additional pamphlets.

Townsend: Mrs. Alberta Nave, Welfare Dept. has handled several cases, will keep working. Mrs. Mae Sweeney, Senior Citizens, has worked hard, spent some of her own money and has covered the ground well.

Mr. A. F. Shearer has helped several people complete the applications and has covered his area very well. Mrs. Celo Neifert, Red Cross, reported she had never heard of the program.

Toston: Mrs. Frank Beyers, old gentleman, crippled with arthritis, had not heard of the program. Miss LeAnn Jersey, Postmistress, doing well and has forms there for folks, she stated she would help anyone complete the forms and do all possible to be of aid.

Radersburg: Mary Sue Griffith took several forms and will get them put to use. Mrs. Doughty is busy in closing the store, has not done too much. has plenty of forms on hand.

Three Forks: Mrs. Cecelia Tracy reports the ground has been well covered in their area. Mr. William Fairhurst was not at home, talked to his wife who stated he will be in Helena on April 5, and will stop in at our office. She had no knowledge of how much work he has done on the project.

Willow Creek: Mrs. Rich Hilke does not know of anyone who would be eligible. States most folks around there are quite old, lead a retired life and are doing okay. Mrs. Margaret Cleveland left for Hawaii right after receiving the pamphlets, etc. so she left all material at the Senior Citizen Center.

Trident: Mr. Carver, store owner is blind. Does not know of anyone who might be eligible in that area. Mrs. Jennie Andriolo, postmistress is very interested in the program, was given a long briefing, given forms and pamphlets and will give her attention to the program.

Logan: Jackie Severson, store owner, took forms, pamphlets, etc. and stated she knows of a couple of cases that might be eligible...

Miles traveled: 186

East Helena: Mr. Wilber Bartell, Postmaster  
Mr. Ruben Hagen, East Helena Kiwanis

Three Forks: Mr. William Fairhurst, Mayor  
Mrs. Vaughn Barstow

Willow Creek: Mrs. Margaret Cleveland, chairman  
Mrs. Rich Hilke

Winston: Willard Moe  
Tony Moe

Radersburg: Mrs. M. Doughty, chairman  
Mrs. Eddenfield

Toston: LeAnn Jersey  
Mr. Frank Beyers

Townsend: Mrs. Mae Sweeny, chairman  
Mrs. A. J. Nordale, Red Cross  
Mrs. Alberta Nave, Welfare Dept.  
Mrs. Pearl Barraugh  
Mrs. Chester Aolberg  
Mr. A. F. Shearer  
Mrs. Myrtle Hooks, Red Cross  
Mrs. Cleo Neifert, Red Cross

4/8/74

Boulder: Mrs. Jennie Kramer was at work and not available to talk to me. Mary Ann Reiker, Welfare Dept. stated that Mr. Hale of the SS handles all cases for the Welfare. Mrs. Dorothy Cox explained the program to the group of Senior Citizens (about 10 present), passed out forms and other materials. Mrs. JoAnne Mac Farlane, Clerk and Recorder's office stated she had never heard of us and did not know about the program. \* Joseph P. Sologub very busy, drives school bus, County Commissioner and farmer. Sheriff George Paradise has done nothing on the program and said he knows of anyone who could qualify. Mrs. Josie Streib, at the Boulder Cash Grocery is Sec. Treas. of the Senior Citizen group, not actively working on the program. Rev. Robert Grilley passed the forms and literature to several potentials with instructions to mail the completed forms. Mrs. Scott, Jefferson Co. Nurse stated she has 2 potentials in Basin and will contact them.

Basin: Anla Bullock, postmistress, does not know of anyone that needs us.

Cardwell: Elva Wilkensen, postmistress, has passed out literature, but does not know of anyone who might qualify.

Whitehall: Mr. George Peck, president of the Sen. Citizen group is very active in fraternal and civic groups. He has passed out forms and literature to potentials and has informed members of the benefits. The SS rep. has addressed these groups about this program. Mr. and Mrs. David Anderson, working thru their church informing people of the program.

Cardwell: Mr. Alvin Kilmer, County Agent, said he had not been informed of the program.

Jefferson City: Russell Tintinger does not have any prospects in mind. Mrs. Madison stated she has 2 in mind in Wicks which she will follow up on as she has forms and literature.

Clancy: Mr. and Mrs. Duffy put out all the pamphlets and forms on hand and do not want any more. Mrs. Helen Thallseth handed out many pamphlets and forms and has a good supply on hand.

Miles traveled: 170

\* I talked with this lady myself and set up the appointment for Mr. Larson and Mr. Eybel to speak with the County Commissioners on March 18th. We talked briefly about the program and she stressed that the talk should be brief, etc.

Ree



To: George Eybel, District Director

From: SSI Alert - Helena

Towns scheduled for visit this date:

Boulder:

1. Mrs. Jennie Kramer, 102 West Leslie Ave.
2. Mary Ann Rieker, 211 S. Jackson
3. Mrs. Sophie Sundling, Welfare Dept.
4. Mrs. Art Aspengren, 112 N. Jefferson
5. Mr. James Sanddal, 503 W. Centennial
6. Mrs. Wanda Stout, Depot Road
7. Mr. George Paradise, 110 S. Washington
8. Mr. Fritz Hiltz
9. Mr. Ed Kirtley, 205 E. 4th Ave.
10. Mrs. Janet Brown, 104 S. Adams
11. Mr. Dean Brown, Boulder Monitor, 104 S. Adams
12. Rev. Robert Grilley
13. Mrs. Dorothy Cox, P. O. Box 44
14. Mrs. Zea McCoy, Pres. Senior Citizens
15. Mrs. Babe Jackson, VP " "
16. Mrs. Josie Streib, Sec-Treas - Sen. Cit.

Whitehall:

1. Mr. George Peck, chairman
2. Mrs. Jackie Uivary, Box 146
3. Mr. Alvin Kilmer, Cardwell
4. Mr. David Anderson, 27 W. Legion
5. Mrs. Mary Anderson, 27 W. Legion
6. Mrs. Jo Anne McFarlane, 202 Sherman
7. Mr. Vince Capp, W of Whitehall

Jefferson City:

1. Russell Tintinger
2. Mrs. Madison

Clancy:

1. Pat Duffy

Elk Park:

1. O. J. Sologub

Basin:

1. Anla Bullock





Appendix II.

Helena SSI Statistics, Jan - Apr 74

1. TOTAL SSI APPLICATIONS POSSIBLE	<u>800</u>
2. TOTAL SSI APPLICATIONS RECEIVED	<u>417</u>
3. REFERRALS RECEIVED	<u>216</u>
4. REFERRALS SCREENED	<u>111</u>
5. TOTAL 56 COUNTIES VISITED	<u>32</u>
6. TOTAL VOLUNTEERS RECRUITED	<u>42</u>
7. TOTAL VOLUNTEERS BRIEFED/TRAINED	<u>41/41</u>
8. SSI MAILINGS	<u>1,275</u>
AGENCIES	<u>          </u>
GROUPS	<u>          </u>
9. TOTAL CIVIC GROUPS BRIEFED/NUMBER	<u>15</u>
10. TOTAL RADIO MEDIA INTERVIEWS	<u>2</u>
11. TOTAL TELEVISION MEDIA INTERVIEWS	<u>0</u>
12. TOTAL NEWSPAPER MEDIA PRINTED	<u>19</u>
13. NUMBER TIMES CONSORTIUM MET	<u>7</u>
14. NUMBER PEOPLE CONSORTIUM BRIEFED	<u>718</u>
15. INDIAN RESERVATIONS VISITED	<u>NA</u>
16. NUMBER INDIANS BRIEFED	<u>5</u>
17. TOTAL MILES TRAVELED	<u>5,901</u>

III. SEMINAR REPORTS

TAB A.....GREAT FALLS SEMINAR, DEC 73

TAB B.....BUTTE SEMINAR, JAN 74

TAB C.....HELENA SEMINAR, FEB 74

TAB D.....BILLINGS SEMINAR, MAR 74

TAB E.....MISSOULA SEMINAR, APR 74

TAB A

GREAT FALLS SEMINAR, DEC 73

To: SSI ALERT DISTRICT DIRECTORS - BILLINGS  
BUTTE  
GREAT FALLS  
HELENA  
MISSOULA

Subject: RESUME OF SSI ALERT SEMINAR, GREAT FALLS, MONTANA

1. A seminar meeting was held in Great Falls, Montana on the 26 and 27 December 1973 to discuss and evaluate the new Supplemental Security Income Program for the Aged, Blind and Crippled peoples of Montana. In attendance were the recently appointed State Division and District Directors and certain American Red Cross personnel.
2. The seminar agenda (Attach. 1) was prepared and closely followed by the acting seminar chairman, Division Director, Phillip R. Gonzales. Primarily, the seminar conversations were catagorized into the following general topic areas:
  - A. SSI Alert Background and Current Program Policies.
  - B. SSI Budget-Accounting.
  - C. Montana State Work Areas/Responsibilities.
  - D. SSI Training Program and Public Relations.

The discussion on these specific topics are detailed and related as follows.

3. SSI Alert Background and Current Program Policies.

Personnel from the Social Security Administration, Great Falls District Office, briefed on the movement of the Aged, Blind and Disabled peoples from the Welfare Agency to management and administration by the Social Security Administration. In essence, this transition from welfare roles to SSA was initiated in mid-summer 1973 with the objective to bring all eligible peoples of Montana into the SSI Program. It was understood that all personnel who are presently in the program will be automatically transferred to the Social Security Agency and payments will continue as previously handled.

Mr. Guadalupe Salinas and Mr. George Freemole, Great Falls District (SSA), explained that one of the primary goals of the SSI Program was to put cash payments on a national and uniform basis. The SSA was chosen for the program because of the 1500 Social Security offices and 5000 contact stations throughout the United States and the ability to amass/distribute great amounts of data through the SSA computer systems. They further elaborated that people in general are proud and will not participate in the SSI if they think the program is in anyway related to welfare. There are an estimated 1000 disabled people being automatically converted from the State Welfare Agencies to the SSI, as of 1 January 1974. Nationally, there are an estimated two million aged and one and a half million blind and disabled presently receiving assistance. This level is estimated to increase to 4.6 million for the aged.

Simply stated, the eligibility for the SSI Alert Program is: 65 years or over or blind or disabled plus resources. They explained further that if a person has 20/200 in his better eye with glasses, he is termed statutory blind or if he has an impairment of 12 months or longer, he can be termed disabled. Further eligibility rules state a single person can have resources of \$1,500.00 or less and a couple of \$2,250.00 or less; a home of assessed value of \$25,000.00 or less and one moderately priced car. If a person has all these requirements, chances are, that he may be eligible for SSI payments. There are exclusions for the blind and disabled. Importantly, the SSI Program is based entirely on need.

Mr. Salinas explained explicitly about earned and unearned income i.e. wages, net earnings from self employment equals earned income - all else equals unearned income. The first \$20.00 per month is disregarded from his earned income equals \$60.00 a quarter. Examples follow:

\$100.00 SS Check	\$130.00 SS Check
<u>    x3</u>	<u>    x3</u>
\$300.00 Quarter	\$390.00 Quarter
<u>  -60.00</u>	<u>  -60.00</u>
\$240.00 Chargeable Income	\$330.00 Chargeable Income

\$390.00 SSI Max.
<u>  330.00</u>
\$ 60.00 Quarterly SSI Payment

Couple	\$195.00 Monthly	\$150.00 SS Check	\$585.00
	<u>    x3</u>	<u>    x3</u>	<u>  390.00</u>
	\$585.00 Quarterly	\$450.00	\$195.00 Quarterly or 65 monthly
		<u>  -60.00</u>	SSI payment
		\$390.00	



Other pertinent facts to the SSI Program are that retroactive pay is only to the month they applied; that Indians do receive special provisions and privileges, but should check Indian income and resources.

Mr. Gonzales stressed the point that SSI Directors/volunteers should not try to judge the qualification of an applicant for SSI benefits, but should encourage those people being interviewed to come into the Social Security Agency for submission and review of their SSI application.

4. SSI BUDGET - ACCOUNTING

Mr. Gonzales discussed in detail the SSI Alert budget and accounting policies/procedures. He stipulates the following constitute firm policy directives and guide lines to all District Directors in establishing individual budgets and accounting.

- a) Bookkeeping to be kept simple but meticulous and on a daily basis.
- b) A sum total of \$8,100.00 requested from State Director/Aged for each District constitute budget allocation monies for three months beginning 1 January 1974.
- c) If at the end of January 1974 a consensus of opinion is reached that the SSI Alert Program objective cannot be met, there will be a request for additional time and monies to carry out the program.
- d) Salaries will be paid the 1st and 15th of each month. Travel vouchers, office and other expense vouchers are to be turned in to the Chapter Executive Secretary for review and separate payment on the 1st and 15th of each month.
- e) Accounting will be made into three separate categories:
  - 1) Salary
  - 2) Travel
  - 3) Office Expense
- f) District secretaries will work 8 hours, 5 days a week. As Federal policy will be followed, there will be 2 holidays during the three month program period.
- g) Detailed accounting should be made each day. Vouchers should be made in duplicate and be sure to differentiate between salary, office expense and travel on field vouchers.
- h) District Directors will be paid \$25.00 per day per diem and ten cents per mile to volunteers. Directors will use their own judgement and discretion in volunteer per diem payment.



- i) There is a 25% discount on long distance calls and the telephone is tax free. Acceptance of long distance collect calls will be left to the judgement of the Directors.
- j) Stationary, with SSI letterhead, was passed out (250 sheets/envelopes) to each Division/District Director. Total cost was \$44.60 and each district will be expected to pay their pro-rated share of \$7.44 to the Division Office from Budget monies.
- k) All Red Cross personnel are covered by Traveler's Insurance. Make certain your individual insurance covers you for \$50,000/\$100,000 Bodily Injury Liability and \$10,000 Property Damage Liability.

#### 5. MONTANA STATE WORK AREAS/RESPONSIBILITIES

A long discussion was held on the best way to resolve imbalanced District Director work areas, as presently structured in accordance with SSA, and provide an equitable number of counties to each District Director. The problem lies in the number of allocated counties to each District Director, which are: Butte District 6; Billings District 20; Missoula District 6; Helena District 8 and Great Falls District 15 counties.

No solution was reached since it was not feasible for District Directors with few counties to take additional eastern Montana counties due to distance/travel complications.

As a result, Mr. Gonzales volunteered to take 12 eastern Montana counties as an additional work-load the first month of January to determine the scope of the work/travel problems and insure the SSI Alert Program is instituted in all Montana counties. A full, comprehensive report will be made 30-31 January at the next SSI Alert Seminar at Butte, Montana.

Mr. Gonzales requested all District Directors send in a copy of proposed travel itineraries, when completed. He requested all District Directors to work diligently with county/city volunteers in identifying, locating and contacting all eligible peoples within their area of responsibility. Make certain all volunteer leaders are briefed well and use every media to search out SSI potential eligibles.

#### 6. SSI TRAINING PROGRAM AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

Mr. Lars Lithander, Great Falls District Director gave an informative account/suggestions on news media and how to obtain good news coverages from TV, Radio and newspapers. He showed several examples of the correct/incorrect way to submit a news brief/report. It was suggested the initial news coverage of the SSI Program would be on a state-wide basis and repetitive news coverage would be placed on a local level, emanating from each District.

7. The SSI Alert Seminar was adjourned at 12:30 p.m., Friday, 28 December 1973. The next SSI Alert Seminar will be held 30-31 January 1974 at 1:30 p.m. in Butte, Montana with Butte District Director, Mrs. Wilma Puich as hostess. It was concluded the meeting will be held at the Red Cross Chapter, where on the first afternoon, all District Director activities will be reviewed "where we've been, where we are and where we're going" and then extract the problems. The following morning session at 8:00 a.m. will be devoted to problem discussion and future plans. All District Directors will file a verbal and written report at this forthcoming meeting.

PHILLIP R. GONZALES,  
DIVISION DIRECTOR  
SSI ALERT PROGRAM

PRG/km

TAB B

BUTTE SEMINAR, JAN 74

TO: SSI ALERT DISTRICT DIRECTORS - BILLINGS  
GREAT FALLS  
HELENA  
MISSOULA

SUBJECT: RESUME OF SSI ALERT SECOND DISTRICT SEMINAR, BUTTE, MONTANA

1. The second District Seminar Meeting was held in Butte, Montana on the 30 and 31 of January , 1974 to discuss and evaluate the progress and accomplishments made by each district office during the past month of January on the new Supplemental Security Income program.

Present were: Mr. Phillip Gonzales  
Mr. Walter Marshall  
Mr. Byron Hess  
Mr. Ted Larson  
Mr. Lars Lithander  
Adele Thiel  
Mrs. Wilma Puich

Also present

were: Mr. Ken Woolsley  
Mr. Rudy Meghini  
Mr. Jerry Stevens  
Cindy Smyth

2. The seminar agenda was prepared by the Butte district office, and closely followed by the acting seminar chairman, Division Director, Mr. Phillip R. Gonzales. Primarily, the seminar conversations were catagorized into the following general topic areas.
  - A. Each District Office - SSI Field Reports
  - B. Summary and Review of SSI Program January 1974
  - C. Discussion - SSI Problem Areas
  - D. SSI Proposals and Recommendations for February 1974

The discussion on these specific topics are detailed and related as follows:

A. EACH DISTRICT OFFICE - SSI FIELD REPORTS

1. Mr. Phillip Gonzales firstly stated he would like to hear a report from each director in each district and that he would also like to receive some feedback information from the Social Security Administration concerning statistics of SSI within the following week in the form of a verbalized report or computerized listing.

Mr. Gonzales then gave a report of his field trips in the month of January, stressing the friendliness and wonderful cooperation of the people who he came across and in contact with in the eastern part of the state, and their willingness, ambition and industrious motives to help in any way that they could to promote the SSI program and see its success. Mr. Gonzales explained the purpose and manner in which he drew up his field reports daily including discussion with each group, problem areas, actions taken and recommended, and as an attachment a brief rating on motels, roads, temperature, etc. One problem which concerned almost everyone present was that of the delayed payroll and Mr. Gonzales stated he would take care of the matter immediately seeing that the underlying problem was resting in the Helena office.

Preliminarily action taken by Mr. Gonzales' secretary to call ahead of time to volunteer leaders, chairman, etc. and request a definite time and date to meet with them proved to be very fruitfull in view of a short time utilization of effort.

In meeting with groups Mr. Gonzales would then give a full comprehensive report on the SSI program with a long question and answer period following. At each meeting he passed out SSI pamphlets, referral forms and set up a meeting with the SSA representative to come in and talk to these groups to answer any other questions that they might have. He also added that his field reports were invaluable to him in helping remember certain key points and being able to identify civic leaders in each community being that they were our link to the program. He stated that pinpointing key leaders of certain groups was difficult in some communities and that in some instances leaders of chairmen had to be appointed. Mentioned was the fact that it was our responsibility to tell these civic groups exactly how we wanted this project carried out and how to go about solving the most significant problem on starting to identify and locate these potential eligibles.

Mr. Gonzales designated a prime person in each community to be responsible to receive literature, assign volunteers, etc. Other contacts made by Mr. Gonzales were the newspaper, radio, and T.V. stations. Mr. Gonzales mostly talked with Senior citizens which he said are very active and stressed a keen interest in our program, because they meet regularly instantaneously, and are very much interested in everything that goes on about them. Mr. Gonzales has made contacts in every county in his district with the exception of Circle, Montana which he stated would be completed shortly. Overall Mr. Gonzales said that he thought the program was very well received in all counties, and that he was sure that total success would be met.

#### TED LARSON

2. Mr. Larson stated that in the past month he has contacted more people than he has had an opportunity to do so in his life time and that the people were tremendous in their ambitions and initiative to successfully see this program complete and also their attitude towards seeing its goals fulfilled. Mr. Larson found the Chamber of Commerce, the State capitol Mr. Shoup, and Mr. Olsen very helpful in recruiting volunteers. Mr. Larson a so belongs to the United Commercial Travelers, who in Bozeman, Livingston, and Helena are making it a project of their own basically because they know that through this project accomplishments



can be made and without spending money of their own. Ted found that the 4-Hers were also involved in working for the SSI program and that this group had apparently made history in Red Cross in a previous project called Project Find. Mr. Larson then went into full detail of accomplishments made, in recruiting volunteers, speaking engagements, actual counties contacted, and news media, etc. Mr. Larson also mentioned that there has been a school set up in Missoula and that they are training young men and women to go out and act as caseworkers and that some of them are working at the Veterans hospital at Fort Harrison. At the present time Helena has reported 98 applications turned in and in summarizing Mr. Larson stated that he has all 8 counties covered and volunteers briefed and trained in each.

#### MRS. WILMA PUICH

3. Firstly, Mrs. Puich stated how best to accomplish her goals by forming a consortium. Out of 18 personal telephone contacts she had 17 which responded favorably. She has enlisted the support of this advisory board to meet weekly. Brought forth was the problem which some Senior citizens had getting through the SSA federal exchange to reach the SSA office. In each county visited Mrs. Puich set up a definite time and place for a training session for volunteers she would then send to each volunteer chairman a Volunteer Chairman Kit, composed of information on the SSI program, pamphlets, lead referral forms, clippings from newspaper on the SSI program, a listing of Volunteer Chairman by county, 5 examples of how SSI works, and an itinerary of the Social Security Administrations. Mrs. Puich also familiarized herself with each community before speaking with the groups, as to the population of each community number of civic groups, etc. She tried to keep her meetings informal, interesting, and to the point and stressed that the volunteers would not be classified or called caseworkers. In summarizing, Mrs. Puich stated that she had been getting great personal satisfaction out of working on this program and she is sure that it will be a great success.

#### ADELE THIEL

4. Adele also found very good community representation however in quality rather than quantity. She thought acceptance of the SSI project was largely due to the role which Red Cross played in its organization and sponsoring. Adele did much traveling in her 11 districts as much as 1700 miles in the month of January alone. She has had a close working relationship with the Social Security Administration. She pointed out that people attending the SSI meetings for the most part were the needy eligible. The project in Billings will be more time consuming and will require more skill than those smaller communities because of the vast area to be covered. To date Adele has aired on radio news broadcast 25 times on the new SSI program. She also has publications appearing in the Billings Gazette. In the news media a total of 20 contacts were made to outline small newspapers, radio stations, and mimeograph sheets. Editors were very interested in SSI and have handled the releases well. Two Indian reservations were visited during her travels and volunteers have been orientated and are assisting in finding the eligible needy on these reservations.

#### LARS LITHANDER

5. Mr. Lithander stated he was very conscientious of the significance of the volunteers working in the SSI program. He found that he used a different approach to each place and each person visited. During the initial weeks of the program SSI material was distributed to many Civic groups, and volunteers. He mailed pamphlets to all Great Falls

churches to be published in the different Church bulletins. Lars discussed each community that he visited on a daily report and ran into the same attitude as the previous directors had stated. He found that people who had been associated with Project Find were very valuable in supplying information of potential eligibles and recruiting volunteers. He also found the Opportunities Incorporated very valuable because of their outreach work in the low income area and that they already have about 6 programs within their own makeup. Mr. Lithander made many person to person contacts in the past month which will be invaluable to the SSI Program.

#### BYRON HESS

6. Mr. Hess's organizational setup has been similar to those already discussed. At the present time Mr. Hess has 49 volunteer workers signed up in his district. Nine of these are working on the Flathead reservation and have already turned in results. Byron is using a 6 foot map of the 7 counties in his district and he is using colored pin points to show areas already covered. He also has 4 volunteer workers which were sent out from the University of Montana where they were trained to work with potential eligibles as volunteers. He has also found the SSA office in Missoula to be of great help in offering their projector and slides of the SSI program for presentation. As it turned out finding people in the Rural areas which previously was thought to be a problem worked out just the opposite way, because of the fact that the people all know each other in these communities and know just where to go to reach many of the potential eligibles who might qualify for the program. Mr. Hess is very pleased with current results stemming from their efforts made in the month of January in the Missoula District.

#### B. SUMMARY AND REVIEW OF THE PROGRAM SO FAR

As an overall summary and review of the program for the month of January it was stated by all that this seminar was invaluable to each to be able to meet with each other, share ideas, discuss problems, and find solutions to these problems and also to view each others approaches on the actual application of the SSI program to the public.

#### C. DISCUSSION - PROBLEM AREAS

1. Whether problems: floods, below 0 degrees temperature, icy roads, etc.
2. Problems with the Payroll being held up in the Helena office, discussed money for volunteer travel and to set up a petty cash fund which can be replenished when needed.
3. Finding ways to work the larger areas such as Billings and getting lists of names to cross reference with as to avoid duplications of SSI prospects
4. Shortage of pamphlets on the SSI program, posters, etc. for distribution to inform and for publicity purposes.
5. In the Missoula office they had a slight problem in setting up a bookkeeping system however they contacted the RSVP office and a gentleman from there came in and set up a system and the problem was then solved.



6. Itinerary Problems - It was stated that it was very difficult to make out a proposed itinerary and keep it as scheduled.
7. Mrs. Puich ran into a slight problem with a volunteer chairman in Madison county as to her immediately demanding attention from the Social Security people on the spot which they could not do. However, further contacts with this volunteer have been made and it no longer poses a problem.
8. Also presented as the problem of getting lists of names from the Social Security Administration to compare names with, however, their rules and regulations do prevent them from doing so.

#### PROPOSALS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR 1974

1. Mr. Gonzales requested a written report from each director and wants each director to make a report to him each week to be further passed on to San Francisco. He will have some kind of form sent to each director in graph form so that he will have a figure of such to give us a base with which to measure against the SSA people. These statistics will be backed and substantiated by each directors written report.
2. Mr. Gonzales stressed the importance of working very closely with each consortium and meeting with them frequently to give them an update on accomplishments and progress, and that there should be an increased emphasis and special attention and effort to press for publicity during the next few months. Also give your SSA representative a good briefing frequently on progress, problems, etc.
3. It was suggested that on all SSI referral forms, pamphlets, etc. to stamp or write the SSI district office telephone number on the bottom.
4. In some districts if people need more information on SSI they are able to call the SSA office through a toll free enterprise number.
5. Ask your postmaster for permission to talk to mail carriers as to giving you a list on his route of those disabled, blind, or receiving Social Security checks.
6. Keep track of those people who have been of great help, value, and an asset to the SSI program to later send them a thank you letter for all their efforts and time. Perhaps in the future a certificate of such will be drawn and signed by the governor of the state and sent to these people.
7. Programing for an additional month of SSI if needed were discussed.

#### BRIEFING WITH RUDY MENGhini

A briefing with Mr. Rudy Menghini from the Butte SSA office was held. Mr. Menghini said that during the month of January his office has taken 200 applications approximately for SSI. The biggest work load on SSI has been Welfare conversions. Many people didn't get their checks, because

of wrong addresses, etc. However emergency payments were made to some of them on a basis of not over \$100.00. Three SSA personnel were then assigned to endorse these checks. This emergency payment is only temporary and funded from month to month. It has also been established that District Directors in each district office will make the final determination in SSI payments. Also discussed was the definition in qualifying for disability and blindness. Some people in state institutions and the mentally handicapped should inquire about the SSI program also.

E. ADJOURNMENT:

The SSI Alert Seminar was adjourned at 1:18 p.m., Thursday, 31 January 1974. The next SSI Alert Seminar will be held on 27 - 28 February in Helena, Montana with Helena District Director, Mr. Ted Larson as host.

WILMA PUICH  
SSI DISTRICT  
PROJECT DIRECTOR

TAB C

HELENA SEMINAR, FEB 74

TO: SSI ALERT DISTRICT DIRECTORS - BILLINGS  
GREAT FALLS  
BUTTE  
MISSOULA

SUBJECT: RESUME OF SSI ALERT THIRD DISTRICT SEMINAR, HELENA, MONTANA

1. The third District Seminar Meeting was held in Helena, Montana on the 27th and 28th of February, 1974, to discuss and evaluate the progress and accomplishments made by each district office during the past month of February on the Supplemental Security Income program and to discuss the phase-out of the Alert program.

Present were: Mr. Phillip Gonzales  
Mr. Walter Marshall  
Mr. Byron Hess  
Mr. Ted Larson  
Mr. Lars Lithander  
Mrs. Adele Thiel  
Mrs. Wilma Puich

Also Present Were: Mr. Dan Kelly  
Mr. Frank Sennett  
Mr. Mike McGowan  
Mrs. Jan Tichenor  
Mr. Jack Sharp  
Mr. Earl Lawlor  
Mr. George Eybel  
Mrs. Ree Forbes

2. The seminar agenda was prepared by Division Director, Mr. Phillip Gonzales, and closely followed by the acting seminar chairman, Mr. Ted Larson. Primarily, the seminar conversations were catagorized into the following general topic areas.
  - A. Each District Office - SSI Field Reports
  - B. Summary and Review of SSI Program February, 1974
  - C. Discussion - SSI Problem Areas
  - D. SSI Proposals and Recommendations for March 1974

The discussion on these specific topics are detailed and related as follows:

A. EACH DISTRICT OFFICE - SSI FIELD REPORTS

MR. PHILLIP GONZALES

1. Mr. Gonzales opened his comments by saying he wished to set the stage for the seminar as one of informality with free discussion. He welcomed all the SSI-Alert district directors, Mr. Dan Kelly, Mr. Walter Marshall and Mr. Frank Sennett, Bureau on Aging, and Mr. Mike McGowan and Mrs. Jan Tichenor, Red Cross, Great Falls.

This seminar is being held at a point two-thirds thru our allocated time. There are many important things to discuss and thoughts and recommendations are solicited. A request has been submitted for a one-month extension but there has not been an answer from San Francisco, so we must consider transition out, as far as the SSI-Alert program is concerned, for the last of March.

Mr. Gonzales commented that it was well that he had had his secretary set up appointments by phone ahead of his arrival in the twelve Eastern counties. He had set too tight a schedule for himself with morning, noon and afternoon appointments, with radio interviews inbetween. Field reports are made out and sent in each day.

198 SSI applications were presented to Mr. Martin, SSA, on his field trip to Wolf Point from the Sioux and Assiniboin. Circle, Montana, was contacted again and disinterest was again met. It is felt a good full months work will be needed to bring the SSI program to life there and institute some reaction by the people there. It may be no one there is in need of SSI, but it is the responsibility of the program to see they get the word and then make up their minds. Community leaders will be contacted and volunteers sought.

The time spent in Glendive was quite fruitful. Newspaper coverage is all 12 counties was very good. 8 radio broadcasts were made. In Miles City a taped radio interview was made and 15 minutes on T.V. Saturday morning meetings were held. Cracker-jack volunteers are working in the area but also some apathy was seen. Mr. Gonzales summarized that there was good and bad in his travels in the 12 counties, and there is much more work to be done.

It is Mr. Gonzales' feeling that the SSA will have a great deal of careful work in store for them in receiving the SSI referrals from the Indian people on the Fort Peck Reservation. People now know about the SSI program but the work will come in galvanizing the volunteer workers into more concerted action and spread the word still further. Volunteer worker, Mrs. Loretta Bear Cub, Poplar, brought in applications of her people and it is felt that the SSA field representative inadvertently discouraged Mrs. Bear Cub. There was feed-back on this, received when Mr. Gonzales' secretary was making her phone checks to determine if everything was going along well in the areas. It seems there has been discrimination against the Indians in some areas and we must make sure these people are handled objectively, fairly, and given the same consideration as others. If they are refused, the reasons must be patiently explained so they fully understand what the reason is. We must make sure this program is properly handled on all our reservations.

#### MRS. WILMA PUICH

2. Mrs. Puich stated that the hard work by volunteers and the Butte office for the past is finally beginning to show. Accomplishments are showing also by recipients spreading the word. This past month concentration has been on visiting previously trained volunteers, advance publicity, office procedure and recruitment of new volunteers. There as a problem in Dillon but this was not due to apathy but rather that the volunteer chairman was wearing about 6 different hats and



working in all of them.

The County Nurses have been contacted and when they hold their Beaverhead and Madison County meeting, it is hoped that volunteers can be obtained from this gathering.

All volunteer chairmen have been asked to send their SSI application forms directly to the Butte office so a chart can be kept for each volunteer, all applications turned in by that volunteer being recorded on their chart. Applications are then forwarded to SSA.

Church groups, service clubs and civic organizations have been spoken to. T.V., radio and newspaper media have given very good coverage. Announcements have been carried in church bulletins.

Madison County was not covered at the time of the January seminar. It is now organized. In 7 small communities either the postmaster or postmistress are acting as volunteer chairmen. The number of volunteers has grown in most areas.

Posters were made in the Butte SSI-Alert office in lieu of receiving the promised posters. These were displayed and uses of posters enlarged upon.

MR. EARL LAWLOR, Asst. Mgr. Helena SSA office

3. Mr. Lawlor stated that SSI is working, SSA is getting response showing volunteers are active. A satisfactory number of leads are being received from SSI contacts.

Mr. Lawlor stated one point must be stressed: There is no retro-activity in the SSI application until a definite intent is shown and signed. The signature space on the SSI referral form is for the volunteer worker, not the applicant.

The SSA representative from Denver, Mr. Sterling Petersen, stated when he was in Helena last week, that they are very, very well satisfied with Montana, it is well organized, well underway and working. That is not true in all the states.

Mr. Walter Marshall asked Mr. Lawlor about the enthusiasm of the SSA field representatives. Mr. Lawlor explained the back-log in SSA work in field offices. Problems of contact with field representatives was discussed in detail. Discussion continued to include the chart prepared by Mr. Gonzales from SSA figures for January and February. These were: Total SSI Applications Possible; Total SSI Applications Received; Referrals Received; Referrals Screened. Mr. Marshall asked about the procedure of handling referrals. At this point there was lengthy and informal discussion on this and the subject of field office SSA workings. Out of this came the point that there is confusion and misunderstanding on the reporting of the figures in the first four questions of this weekly report. This point will be covered and cleared when Mr. Sharp is able to join the meeting tomorrow.

Mr. Lawlor described the SSA "Tele-Service" and answered questions concerning this.

MR. BYRON HESS

4. Mr. Hess stated there was one point that he wished to make at the onset; it is very important that each volunteer worker make certain that if the applicant's address is a post office box, rural route, etc. that directions for finding the residence is included with the information so that the SSA people will have no difficulty in locating these people. Also, make sure the name is legible.

In the past month, Mr. Hess stated he has had difficulty in obtaining a volunteer chairman for Superior and for Kalispell. Names were suggested to him at this time by Mr. Dan Kelly, Bureau on Aging.

The following figures were presented for the month of February: Chairmen and volunteers working in 25 communities; Chairmen and volunteers trained, 96; Counties and Reservations covered, 7; Consortium, 6 with 136 people. There were 5 training sessions with 45 people. Volunteer workers in Missoula, 41. T.V. and radio, 3; Newspaper, 5. Visits to the following cities and counties: Hamilton, Ravalli County; Superior, Mineral County; Thompson Falls, St. Ignatius, Flathead County. Contact with 14 groups in Missoula and many sources of names.

MR. LARS LITHANDER

5. Mr. Lithander stated that the end of February brings a good feeling of accomplishment. Another county and the 3 Indian Reservations had not been covered at the time of the January seminar.

The Great Falls district did 125 mailings, besides correspondence, to civic, service, county and state officials, all human resource areas in the community. A new avenue of getting material in the hands of people is the County Libraries. Media coverage for the month has been good. SSA men in the field have been very cooperative in the Great Falls coverage area. Volunteers have a good grasp of the program now.

Mr. Lithander stated that some communities are better off and will have less referrals than others. The Blackfoot Reservation is covered and receiving attention. 18 CHR people as well as some agency people were briefed. Rocky Boy is covered, Irene Mitchell has a good group of volunteers and about 5 CHR people.

Activity of the volunteers has been amazing, the Senior Citizens are so very active and interested as long as they understand the program. In Glasgow, Mrs. Hagen is very active talking SSI, on radio, speaking to groups, talking to the community in general.

Fort Belnap area needs more work and another trip to cover this area is needed. CHR, Mrs. Gertrude Work has been briefed. Materials have been sent and one worker briefed on a previous trip. She has spread the word but needs help.

All newspapers in the territory have run the articles sent out to them.



MRS. ADELE THIEL

6. Mrs. Thiel reported 4 consortium meetings (Hardin, Lewistown, Roundup and Billings) and smaller group meetings totaling 81. Letters were sent out to 43 volunteers trained in January, saying thank-you for your January work and keep up the good work. In Billings Mrs. Thiel had 5 speaking engagements. 13 newspaper news releases in the territory. 92 announcements were carried in church bulletins. There were 4 radio interviews and the T.V. is running an ad constantly with the time and temperature on cable.

Mrs. Thiel stated that the SSA has been very cooperative with her office and that the Red Cross continues to be her security blanket.

Crow and Lame Deer workers were sent thank-you letters and asked to keep up the good work. The SSA wishes the applicants to come in with their referrals in this area and the key CHR workers will see to this. The populations of people 65 years and older is 128 at Lame Deer and 239 at Crow and it is presumed 50% are automatically on assistance, so most have already been channeled in

MR. TED LARSON

7. Mr. Larson stated that a large vote of thanks goes out to the chairmen in each area who have groups of interest people together for a meeting after receiving a phone call that he is planning to be in the area.

Mr. Larson reported that his previous problem area of Livingston has been resolved, his letter to Miss Urana Clarke was read to the seminar, and he reported this area is now hard at work.

A review of the Visual Services mailing of 800 was made and discussion of the projected Special Education mailing of 1200.

Mr. Larson reported 31 communities are currently covered with 153 volunteer workers and organizations active. 2 evening speaking engagements and 4 luncheon speeches were given. One, for the American Legion in Bozeman for World War I Veterans, was held in the street due to the fact the door to the meeting room could not be unlocked. Every rest home in the 8 counties has been contacted.

The one area left to be covered is Amsterdam. Have made contacts but unable to get a volunteer chairman for this area. Perhaps the ancestry and attitude of caring for their own accounts for this.

B. SUMMARY AND REVIEW OF THE PROGRAM SO FAR

Mr. Byron Hess was asked to make this summary. He stated that in regard to publicity it is important to get local names in news releases. He further stated that the two main purposes are: (1) to locate all names possible of eligibles, and (2) get the names into hands of volunteer workers as quickly as possible so contact can be made.

MR. DAN KELLY, BUREAU ON AGING

From reading reports, Mr. Kelly stated he had believed there were two organizers in Montana for SSI, Mr. Gonzales and Mr. Marshall. After attending this meeting he realizes there is a large number of organizers - all doing a great job.

Mr. Kelly stated that at a recent state-wide meeting of County Commissioners he learned that the commissioners are very impressed with and fully behind the SSI program.

MRS. JAN TICHENOR, SMF GREAT FALLS

Mrs. Tichenor stated she had just recently returned to Montana and to Red Cross. Until about a month ago she had no knowledge of the SSI program. In sitting thru these meetings, she stated she could not see how anyone in the State of Montana could be missed with the extensive and complete coverage that has been discussed.

C. DISCUSSION - PROBLEM AREAS

1. Mrs. Puich said she was concerned that incorrect figures were being given for the weekly report and felt she would have to check into this matter with the Butte SSA as soon as she returned to Butte.

A Dept. of Aging speaker had told a group of Anaconda people to deduct their medical expenses before putting figures on SSI referrals. Unable to accept this fact, she told her volunteers to continue as before and not deduct anything.

Definition of Consortium is a problem. One question was, must we continue to hold formal consortium meetings? (Mrs. Gonzales: "I would suggest playing it by ear - it is not good to get a group of people together if you do not really have something for them. Continue speaking to groups, etc.")

Another problem brought out was that a newspaper in the Butte Areas changed the context of an article submitted. (Mr. Lithander: "If context is changed, you can obtain a printed correction.")

People on the Montana Drug Rehabilitation Program are now eligible so this is a new area in Warm Springs that has opened to the Butte district.

2. Mr. Phillip Gonzales stated that March will be the phase-out month. 10 days will be required to phase the program out. A letter has been sent to San Francisco requesting a 30 day extension, listing all the reasons we believe necessary for the continuation of the program for that time. The main reason being that productivity is just starting. Objectives are not yet fully met. In lieu of the decision for additional time, we must plan for phase-out in March. If the extension comes, we will place this plan at the end of April.

The phase-out date was set for Wednesday, March 20, 1974, and a policy letter will be sent to each district on this. Some of the things to be completed at that time will be reports to complete, summarizations to make, thank-you letters, discussions with key volunteer workers, close down offices, inventory, disposal of equipment, pay accounts (ask that statement of accounts be made by March 25th - ask for phone disconnect on April 1.) Equipment will be reverted to Red Cross offices. Mr. Hess suggested that phone calls be referred to the Social Security offices. However, a complete policy letter will be sent out by Mr. Gonzales with phase-out plans.

At this time there was a tabulation of travel monies left to determine if we could operate on a tone-down operation in the event the extension was not approved. It was felt that with extreme care in the use of finances, this could be done.

An explanation was made and discussion of the bill submitted to the districts from Helena for \$21.30 as their share of expense for the Visual Services mailing.

Discussion and acceptance of each office transferring funds from the per diem and office expense account to the Great Falls office in the amount of \$108.66 for travel (1/74) and phone (1/1/74 to 2/11/74) expense incurred by Mr. Gonzales in his travels in the 12 counties of Eastern Montana where no such expense has been included in the budget. A like expense will occur in February and March.

At this point Mr. Gonzales took a poll of the availability of the district directors for an additional month work.

Ted Larson: Resignation due to health and SSA limitations (effective March 8, 1974)

Lars Lithander: No problems if there is an extension.

Wilma Puich: Definitely prefer an additional month.

Byron Hess: Would be able to use time to good advantage.

Adele Thiel: Would prefer not continuing past March 31.

MR. JACK SHARP, SSA, HELENA DIST. DIR.

A recent amendment boosts the amounts shown in the literature effective July 1, 1974, \$6.00 per person, \$9.00 per couple. One-time payments were made to some Montana people on emergency basis out of SSI funds, due to checks not arriving, erroneous amounts, etc.

SSI applications follow the same guidelines as other agency applications, i.e. until a signed statement is received to the effect that an application is being made, not just an inquiry into the program, there is no protective coverage.

A statement such as: "I hereby apply for whatever Supplemental Security Income benefits to which I may be entitled", dated, signed and two witnesses if applicant signs with a mark. Until such a

statement is made, the applicant does not have protective state-ment coverage. A postmark can serve as a protective date in some cases. Following this, the formal application will be taken by the Social Security.

There was more discussion on "Tele-Service" with details of its operation and procedure.

The signature on the SSI-Alert referral form is that of the volunteer, not the applicant.

There has been a definite increase in inquiries and applications since SSI-Alert has been in operation.

At this point the terminology on the weekly report form was placed under discussion. The understanding was clear on the first three items: (1) Total SSI Applications Possible; (2) Total SSI Applications Received; (3) Referrals Received. There is some confusion on the exact meaning of the No. 4, Referrals Screened. Mr. Sharp stated the meaning is "screened out" and that the word "out" should be added to our forms.

Mr. Sharp was asked about the eligibility of Drug Addict and Alcoholic Therapy programs and he stated there had not yet been enough in Montana for formal procedures to have been worked out beyond the directive procedures.

Disability under SSI is the same as SSA and is determined by the state agency under contract to the Secretary of HEW to determine disability.

Persons in institutions receiving 50% of their care and maintenance from Medicaid and are eligible for SSI, can receive a maximum of \$25.00 per month, per person.

D. PROPOSALS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR MARCH, 1974

MR. LARS LITHANDER

1. Continue speaking engagements. Contact volunteers thru phone or personal meeting.
2. Collect volunteer vouchers and have a complete master list of all volunteer for recognition.
3. Boost use of PS announcements on radio.
4. Decision on recognition certificates for mailing by the end of the month.
5. Keep good records on volunteers.
6. Proposal to use some paid-for advertisements. This would say thank-you for all the free news releases. (Display ad, blocked in, attention getter.)



7. Start recognition letters now.
8. Continue to press forward for the month of March.
9. Continue to report as previously - adding the word "out" to No. 4 question on weekly report chart.
10. Proceed with the 1200 mailing to Special Education people.

MR. WALTER MARSHALL, BUREAU ON AGING

Mr. Marshall reminded the directors that a letter had been sent out by his office requesting each district to submit the names of two candidates for outstanding volunteer work, accompanied by 150 words explaining in what way they were outstanding. This is national and names are needed by the first week in March.

Mr. Marshall quoted SSA representatives as saying SSI in Montana is doing an outstanding job. It is his feeling the SSA will have to get extra people in the field to take care of the back-log and keep up-to-date with the SSI referrals which are now coming in at an increased rate.

Mr. Marshall's closing statement was that from his viewpoint, the financial outlook is not bleak for the one additional month.

E. ADJOURNMENT

The SSI-Alert Seminar III was adjourned at 11:45 a.m., Thursday, February 28, 1974. The next SSI-Alert Seminar will be held on 28 - 29 March, 1974, in Billings, Montana, with Billings District Director, Mrs. Adele Thiel as hostess.

TED LARSON  
DISTRICT DIRECTOR, HELENA  
PROJECT SSI-ALERT

TAB D

BILLINGS SEMINAR, MAR 74

TO: SSI DISTRICT DIRECTORS - GREAT FALLS  
BUTTE  
MISSOULA  
HELENA

SUBJECT: RESUME OF SSI ALERT IV DISTRICT SEMINAR, BILLINGS, MONTANA

The fourth District Seminar was held in Billings, Montana on the 28th and 29th of March, 1974.

Those Present: Mr. Phillip Gonzales - State SSI Director  
Mrs. Adele Thiel - Billings District Director  
Mrs. Hattie Martin - Billings District Director  
Mr. Lars Lithander - Great Falls District Director  
Mrs. Wilma Puich - Butte District Director  
Mr. George Eybel - Helena District Director  
Mr. Byron Hess - Missoula District Director  
Mr. Walter Marshall - Council on Aging, Helena  
Mr. Bill Bailey - Red Cross Division Manager, Great Falls  
Mr. John Fleming - Chairman of Midland Empire Red Cross  
Board of Directors, Indian Health  
Service, Billings.  
Mr. Mike McGowan - Red Cross Field Representative Great Falls  
Mr. Ed Johnson - Social Security Administration District  
Manager, Billings.  
Mrs. Margaret Spiker - SSI District Secretary, Billings

Mrs. Adele Thiel, Host for IV SSI Seminar, and Mr. Phillip Gonzales opened the meeting with a brief welcome to and an introduction of all those attending.

Mr. Gonzales stated the first topic of business as listed in the agenda was:

#### 1. FIELD REPORTS

Mr. Phillip Gonzales:

Mr. Gonzales has a district which encompasses 12 counties of eastern Montana - large area with a small population. He observed that most of the contacts he had in March were those he had met with before but that there were a few new faces, as was the meeting with RSVP President in Glendive.

Mr. Gonzales had good attendance at meetings despite weather. He was unable to keep his appointment at Ekalaka because of the inclement weather. He called later to apologize for missing the meeting and found to his dismay that 6 brave souls had attended.



In making the March tour of the counties, Mr. Gonzales was looking for the attitude and incentive that he had received in Jan. and Feb. and discovered that in March that there was a falling off of the volunteer program in that their enthusiasm was not as high. This was possibly due to the fact that as in Scobey, Plentywood, Sidney, Terry, and Wibaux the volunteers felt that they had adequately covered all the communities in their counties. They felt that they had identified the eligible and had much success in bringing in SSI referrals.

The Indian Reservations are definitely a weakspot. Mr. Gonzales found that in Poplar, Wolf Point, and Ft. Peck he encountered passiveness, poor volunteer efforts and little response or no feed back. As a result, referrals not correct or not acceptable for the Social Security Representatives to work from. Resolve: to work with volunteers in April to get referrals filled in and recommend that the Social Security Administration Representatives meet with people to reacquaint them to the SSI program as to benefits and eligibility.

Mr. Hess said that the Indian Reservation at Flathead was a problem area in his district also. He had meeting there of 9 CHR's of the Indian Health Service. They were very attentive but Mr. Hess found that they had been briefed previously by the SSA Representatives. They declined using the new referral forms which replaced the old white ones. When he went back to train additional volunteers he was met with a cold shoulder so that he was unable to gage what progress they were making.

After discussion by the Seminar members and with comments by John Fleming on the organizational structure of the Indian Reservations, Mr. Gonzales recommended that it was best to check in first with the Tribal Chairman when trying to put the SSI Program on the Reservation. He felt that regardless of what avenue you planned to work with, be it Tribal Chairman, Tribal Secretary or CHR; if you inform the Tribal Chairman of your intentions, give him a good briefing on the SSI Program and then keep him informed on the progress it would make for smoother relations.

After almost a zero response in the previous months, Mr. Gonzales found that upon arriving in Circle he was met by a large group who had been waiting about an hour for him to arrive. The attendance was representative of a good cross section of the community. They didn't feel that many would be eligible, even though there are 478 Senior Citizen members in Circle alone, because McCone County is affluent; however, they would cover the area.

Mr. Gonzales was given good radio coverage throughout the counties. Some of the taped interviews were to be given prepeated airings to the end of March. Miles City also carried a TV interview.

In Broadus, due to the poor judgement of the manager-editor who has ignored printing any material on the SSI Project, Mr. Gonzales was unable to get attendance at his meeting. Only those people who had heard of the project from outside of Broadus came in to seek information or to apply. As a whole, Mr. Gonzales felt the coverage given by the newspapers in all counties had fallen off and were not as good as in previous months. He recommended that in April there was a need to revitalize the news media by sending directed news articles to the editors or a blanket type program where news articles are sent throughout the state.

Mr. Lars Lithander:

Mr. Lithander found that there were many things left to do in March. He found it beneficial in catching up on his work and concentrating on other methods, or proven methods of implementation and results as opposed to the introductory procedure which he had been going through. He finds that it is much faster going through the communities now since he is established and has the people. He has decided that in March and April he will have to talk to groups and other people rather than just the Volunteer Chairmen.

Three or four communities are in the wrap-up process due in part to the small population, economical make-up plus other variable things.

Rural letter carriers in Belt, Monarch, Highwood, Simms, and Cascade are taking SSI information to potential eligible on their routes. In Great Falls this is also being done in two major low income areas, Hill 57 and Greater South Side. All these people, working with low income groups are from Opportunities Inc. and the referrals are going back to one or two people there.

Mr. Lithander did more work with Church, Senior High School Youth Groups in Great Falls in taking information of the SSI program to shut-ins.

Information was available through the volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program in three locations in Great Falls and a similar situation at a location in Glasgow.

Spoke at Senior Citizen Groups in Great Falls, Chester, Chinook & Conrad.

The first encounter with specialized groups was made with Parents of Handicapped Children in Great Falls. Mr. Lithander found that it would have been very beneficial to have Social Security Representatives at this meeting. After discussion by the Seminar members it was felt that in April there would be many more contacts with specialized groups and that there should always be a SSA Representative at these meetings to interpret the program, answer the questions determining eligibility and explain the basic procedures of the review board.

Seminar discussion brought out that it would have been ideal to have had all five Social Security Managers present for at least one SSI Seminar. This would have been most helpful in that all SSI Directors and SSA Managers would be uniform on Social Security Administration rulings for the project. Mr. Gonzales reported that prior to the meeting he had talked with each manager asking for recommendations, suggestions and criticisms of the program to be presented to the Seminar members.

Mr. Gonzales then told everyone to be mindful in the month of April that the phase-out of the SSI Program should be well organized so everything is left resolved with all agencies and everyone is happy with our handling of the program.

Mr. Walter Marshall reported that of 32 states, Denver stated that Montana is still first in the nation in the SSI Program.

Mr. Bill Bailey further reported that at a Red Cross Division Meeting at Portland, the SSI Program in Montana is the best in the Western States with Montana having more cases than Los Angeles. Mr. Gonzales then inserted the information that the Montana SSI is approaching 50% of total potential.

Mr. Lithander continued with his Field Report by stating that he visited all 3 Indian Reservations and found it was going very well at the Blackfeet and Rocky Boy Agencies. He had a hard time organizing in Ft. Belknap and after repeated attempts, he still feels that they don't know the program. However, there have been reported undercurrents of activity; the SSA Representatives met with the CHR's for a meeting in Feb. and were asked for another meeting to which they were bringing several people with them. Mr. Lithander plans to meet there in April.

SSI update information was sent to Shelby, Conrad, Fairfield, weeklies; Havre, daily; and eastern Montana Catholic Register, weekly. Received radio coverage on two Great Falls stations, one in Shelby, one in Havre, and a SSA Representative and a volunteer went on Glasgow radio. SSI informational display ads were put in Chester, Cut Bank, Harlem and Havre newspapers.

In March, contact was made with Vocational Rehabilitation, District and Social Rehabilitative Services such as Welfare, Mental Health Centers, etc.; also, as many local Red Cross Chapter Chairmen to inform them of SSI extension in progress.

On calling 100 names on the Cascade County Tax Deduction List, it was found that 18 had been transferred to SSI. 85% no comment or indicated



their ineligibility. 15% had questions but didn't indicate whether they would follow up with an application to the Social Security Administration. Mr. Lithander expects to do more of this in April.

Mr. Lithander has speaking engagements in April in Great Falls, Fairfield, Havre, and one other community.

**Adele Thiel:**

Mrs. Thiel organized Laurel with the Senior Citizen and other representative groups. Red Lodge had their second meeting with the Social Security Representatives who gave detailed account of the SSI Program. She met with the Billings Board to outline the SSI Project. The information was then presented at the following general meeting and three members volunteered to assist in making home visits to the 40 names given the AARP group in Billings was contacted and a meeting was arranged in April for Mrs. Hattie Martin. 13 smaller communities were visited that had been missed before and three were revisited to review accomplishments with the local volunteers.

Mrs. Thiel visited the Carbon County News in Red Lodge and found a fine article just going to press. Also visited the Radio Station KRBN in Red Lodge. A 30 minute taped interview was aired on KURL Radio in Billings, March 11th. Letters were sent to 27 news, radio and TV stations, thanking them for their assistance with the SSI Project and stressing the on-going aspect of the program.

Resumes on two outstanding volunteers were written and submitted to the State Contest.

Letters were written and sent to 278 volunteers thanking them for the work they have accomplished and for continued interest in the SSI program.

On his stop in Billings, Mr. Phillip Gonzales arranged for Mrs. Hattie Martin to take over as Project Director for the month of April.

Expanded Nutrition personnel have been working the SSI Program along with their work and have been taking referrals and making applications as they go along. One outreach worker in the Senior Dinners Program has made 173 SSI contacts.

SSI applications from Jan. 1st to March 20th total 602 thus completing 3/4 of the estimated total of 800.

Mr. Byron Hess

Mr. Hess contacted most of his Chairmen of Volunteers in person or by phone to see if they had problems and how things were going in their communities. He spent three days in Kalispell setting up volunteer organizations to cover the Flathead County. As reported in last Seminar meeting, this was a sore spot but now he finally has it going. He has people interested and expect a lot of referrals soon.

Six appearances were made on radio and TV. Have received reports of many news items in papers throughout the district. The news media in Missoula has been very cooperative in that they have continued to accept news items and print them in their newspapers.

Mr. Hess met with 110 church workers and residents of the Missoula Manor Home. As a result of this meeting, he has been receiving names of several potential recipients and volunteer workers and expects more will come because of it.

The Missoula Consortium met March 15th. Seven organizations were represented. Mr. Hess presented a report of activities and accomplishments to date and told of plan to extend activities through April. The report explained there were 32 communities in the District with 8 Chairmen of Volunteers and 119 volunteers. Since then the Missoula District has added 6 communities, 3 Chairmen of Volunteers and 15 volunteer workers. A great many more will be added from the Flathead County when they become better organized.

Mr. Hess has started to compile a list of names for letters of thanks and certificates of appreciation. He also has sent several personal letters to those who have contributed in his effort. It was stressed at this point that in all thank you letters don't leave the impression that the SSI Program is over. Stress the point that the SSI Program goes on.

Only one area, North Lincoln County has reported they are finished. Mr. Hess felt it was understandable since there are only several small communities in that part of the district but he asked the volunteers to keep watching for applicants and help them to apply.

Mrs. Wilma Puich

Mrs. Puich said that with the honor of being an SSI Director goes the tremendous responsibility behind it. Responsibility usually stimulates Mrs. Puich to do her best but since the 1st of March, with 5 members of her family scheduled for surgery, her responsibility has been taxed to the limit.

#### Granite County

Philipsburg. Volunteers went through the city directory and telephone book, listed the potential eligible within the Philipsburg area and then assigned these names to their workers. Over 200 contacts were made. Each referral list had been marked, not eligible, pension, etc. and each referral form taken had additional notes which the SSA Representatives found very helpful. Completed - Pony, Harrison, and Maxville and incomplete - Anaconda are also handling referrals this way

#### Madison County

Incomplete are also Ennis, Twin Bridges, and Virginia City. A volunteer from Pony took 8 recipients to an appointment in Ennis with the SSA Representatives.

#### Deer Lodge County

Anaconda. Volunteers handled publicity, spoke at various groups and worked with the Senior Citizen Groups. Mrs. Puich and Mr. McGowan were scheduled to speak at the Anaconda Chamber of Commerce Annual Luncheon honoring volunteers who assist within the community but had to cancel because of weather. Mrs. Puich feels that the county seat is nearly completed with 51 referral forms submitted to date.

#### Silver Bow County

Butte is very fortunate as they have access to all the SSI media. Last month a brief letter explaining the program and asking for time to speak was mailed to the various groups in Butte. She has had very good response from this letter. Senior Citizen groups in the area have visited every rooming house, every member of various Senior Citizen Clubs and areas which predominately house potential eligible persons.

#### Beaverhead County

Dillon. This has been the stumbling block of Beaverhead County. However, a new volunteer has been recruited so Dillon will now be covered.

Mrs. Puich feels that the projected 1500 eligible is high rather than low. Example: having completed Philipsburg, of the 200 door to door visits the volunteers received 17 referrals. In Anaconda they have received only 51.

Mrs. Puich is pleased with her way of handling referrals since she has her thumb on top, knows what is coming in and what areas need SSA Representatives. Consequently she is able to get the SSA Representatives to those areas.

Mrs. Puich had a meeting with three county commissioners from Silver Bow County, briefed them, and are now receiving referrals from them.

Two names for outstanding volunteers were sent to the contest. Mr. Marshall reported that of the 177 nominations sent from Montana, the two volunteers sent to Denver for the Six State Contest was from the SSI Project and the RSVP.

Travel this month was low. The three trips that were necessary were made but Mrs. Puich stated that with the volunteers doing such a fantastic job there was no need going back saying the same things to the same faces.

Since Mrs. Puich didn't feel she wanted to speak to the specialized groups she had them call the SSA Representatives direct. It was also determined at this point by the Seminar members that the group could also go through the United Way and have them request the SSA Representatives to speak.

Mr. George Eybel:

Mr. Larson and Mr. Eybel visited and briefed the Jefferson County Commissioners. A project of visiting the Hutterite Colonies was suggested by Mr. Larson prior to his resigning as SSI District Director. Mr. Eybel visited Augusta and signed the eligible to the program 100%. He met with a minister from the Martinsdale Colony and through this contact the Harlowtown Colony will also be covered. There is still one colony left in the district to be contacted.

Mr. Eyble met with 17 people, including 2 counselors of the Outreach Program for Alcoholics, at the Halfway House. He left four packets of information on the program for the counselors to have for their use with their clients.

West Yellowstone seems to be well taken care of. The inhabitants of Amsterdam was not receptive to having the program put in their community. Mr. Eybel hopes to be able to get his foot in the door there by visiting with the minister of the local church and the community of Manhattan who might give him some contacts in the community of Amsterdam. In White Sulphur Springs, the Welfare Department is directing those people who might qualify for SSI to the Social Security Office.

The project of sending mailers to the list of 1200 disabled children was not completed since authorization to release this list was not granted. A new attempt at this will be given priority in April.



## II. SUMMARY AND REVIEW OF SSI PROGRAM FOR MARCH

Mrs. Wilma Puich

Mrs. Puich stated that there is only one month left to complete the project and felt that the results were just beginning to show. She reflected that Montana is a vast expanse of space, inclement weather, high mountains, and icy roads. Time-wise the program has been under the gun. Since all districts have been working with volunteers who should not be pushed or rushed, we still have to get the project done and done well.

As for publicity, since the publicity for Albertson and Safeway ads goes through the Butte offices, Mrs. Puich will have those companies run the SSI ad in their ad. She stressed that there was need to get back on radio, get back on TV, use your press, and use anything to spread the word.

At the end of the project, thank your volunteers. Treat them as if they were angels from heaven. Treat them as SSI volunteers you respect and hang on them as future Red Cross volunteers. Red Cross will also issue certificates for volunteers in addition to the ones issued by SSI.

For the specialized groups always have the Social Security Representatives speak at those meetings.

Progress to date is very satisfactory. Mrs. Puich feels that the District Directors are not losing enthusiasm but that the volunteers are gaining it and do not need the Directors as much.

Mr. Phillip Gonzales

Mr. Gonzales stated that the staff will be working harder than they ever worked before on the program to insure that the program goes out as it came in - in success. It is unfortunate that the project could not continue but he felt that for what the program was designed for and set up for, we have met the objectives of the program. It was not a long term, long range type of program but was a short fast punch to tell the people of what the SSI Program is all about and to encourage them to participate in the program. It is interesting to see how it started out and the detail each of the Directors has taken to cover the particular areas of responsibility. The program was set up through Red Cross because they have the expertise to work with volunteers.

It had been proven that national broadcasting and state broadcasting had not solved the problem of getting the word out. It took the individual grass root contact that occurred between person to person repartee. That is what Mr. Gonzales feels the SSI is here for and what each has done in their own individualistic way.

The fifth District Seminar will be held in Missoula April 29, 30 and May 1st with Byron Hess as Host. It will be a workshop with all Directors compiling a very comprehensive report on what has been done in the four month project.

The phase-out objective will be April 30. Mr. Gonzales told the Directors to give themselves time at the end of the month to consolidate and pay expenses, and to ascertain how much funds is left to the end of the project.

Mr. Gonzales will be working through May and he will be able to handle anything that is left over. He intends to visit all Indian Reservations and any place that the Directors feel need additional work. He will preach the continuation of the program with all volunteers and smooth the program forever with SSA and RC.

Since Billings has a low estimated balance for the end of the project, it was determined that each of the other four districts will pay \$150 for the eastern Montana district.

#### IV Mr. Ed Johnson

Mr. Ed Johnson was introduced to the Seminar Members. Mr. Gonzales briefed Mr. Johnson on the statistics which the SSI Project keeps to measure the extent of work and efforts expended on the program.

Estimated applications for Montana is 4800 - 5200. In trying to visit every county every month, 170 counties have been visited. At this date and using 4800 as base, we're approaching 43% of our goal and expect to achieve 50% with the fourth week. This doesn't take into account the number of SSI referrals received but the mere fact that people come in shows the program achievement reached. Of the 2680 referrals received, 346 were screened out or rejected. Civic groups means Kiwanis, etc., or groups to whom the program has been given. Radio, newspapers, give the initial contact plus every repeat of item. There were 22 TV programs giving statewide coverage. 12,000 miles were traveled Jan. & Feb. 11 Indian Reservations were also visited in Jan. & Feb.

Mr. Johnson explained that with the help of temporary people, his office is doing SSI applications in addition to their regular duties with a high receipt on their regular program. The figures given by his office to the District SSI was computed on a personal basis since the computer reports took so long in getting back to his office. Referrals and applications contacted one day are mailed out the same day. It may take a little longer the first of the month depending on the work load and may vary according to district.

Mr. Johnson felt that the SSI Project was a very needed function. It was a job that the SSA would have been required to do so he appreciate those who have done it. He agreed that there have been challenges, problems, and time has passed but the end result has been that the people are getting the word. He feels that the SSI Project is very effective and both sides have benefited by the Project.

It has been difficult to capture statistics since the applicants source of information has not been questioned but they have received 439 claims in the District Office and 139 in Miles City and Mr. Johnson felt that the church bulletins and use of mass media was ingenious and obviously added to these figures.

One concept that Mr. Johnson felt that should be considered were the number of informal denials given. These denials are given to people who are obviously not eligible due to their income and resources. 426 of these denials from the District Office and Miles City have not been entered in the SSI statistics.

The conversion from the Welfare rolls has been difficult but is now working well. Five cases still remain that the SSA is still working on.

#### Summary

It was stressed the volunteers and Red Cross Chapters should send applicants direct to the Social Security Office.

Red Cross and Social Security Managers would like the lists of volunteers who worked with SSI so that if there is any transportation problems, etc., in the various communities in the on-going SSI Program, a volunteer could be contacted to deal with it.

A blanket publicity campaign will be developed by Lars Lithander and sent to each district Director who can place them in the news media with the surplus funds.

TAB E

MISSOULA SEMINAR, APR 74

To: SSI Alert District Directors - Billings  
Butte  
Great Falls  
Helena  
Missoula

Subject: Resume' of SSI Alert Seminar V.  
Missoula, Montana

1. The last seminar meeting, SSI Alert Program of Montana was held in Missoula, Montana on 29-30 April and 1 May 1974. The main and most important purpose of the seminar was to discuss the phase-out of all SSI Alert Districts in Great Falls, Helena, Missoula, Butte, Billings, Montana and the completion of all required summary reports. In attendance were the SSI Alert District Directors, personnel from local/state American National Red Cross, State Director/Aging and SSI secretarial staff.

Present were: Mr. Phillip Gonzales, State SSI Director  
Mrs. Hattie Martin, Billings District Director  
Mr. Lars Lithander, Great Falls District Director  
Mrs. Wilma Puich, Butte District Director  
Mr. George Eyeble, Helena District Director  
Mr. Byron Hess, Missoula District Director

Also Present: Mr. John Fleming, Chairman of Midland Empire  
Red Cross Board of Directors, Indian Health  
Service, Billings, Montana

Mr. Mike Mc Gowan - Red Cross Field Representative - Western Montana

Mrs. Adele Thiel - former Billings District Director

Mr. Ted Larson - former Helena District Director

Mr. Rich King - RSVP Representative from Director/Aging

Mrs. Michael Mc Gowan, SSI Division Secretary

Mrs. Patti Close, SSI District Secretary  
Missoula



Mr. Byron Hess, host for SSI Seminar V, and Mr. Phillip Gonzales opened the meeting with a brief welcome to and introduction of all those attending.

2. The seminar agenda (attachment 1) was carefully prepared to insure all necessary action for the phase-out and closure of each SSI District Director office would be completed by 30 April 1974, to include the reconciliation and settlement of budget monies, bills and accounts. The SSI Alert workshop was conducted by the acting seminar chairman, Division Director, Phillip R. Gonzales. Primarily, the seminar conversations were categorized into the following general topic areas:
  - a. Discussion of Seminar Workshop.
  - b. Financial Reports - Phase-Out Procedures.
  - c. SSI Field Reports - Each District Office.
  - d. Final Report Requirements/Summaries.
  - e. Final Report Wrap-up and File Storage.

The discussion on these specific topics are detailed and related as follows:

A. Discussion of Seminar Workshop.

(1) Mr. Phillip Gonzales, first, discussed the seminar agenda and the work program for the next 2½ days. He assured all participants they would be able to check out of their quarters on Wednesday morning, 1 May 74. The change in the Wednesday A.M. program was from a seminar work luncheon at 1200 hours to a seminar work breakfast at 0830 hours; this change would allow timely departure of the seminar group to their respective home stations on Wednesday morning. As a result of this change, it would then be necessary to complete the workshop by Tuesday.

B. Financial Reports - Phase Out Procedures.

(1) Mr. Gonzales asked each District Director on the status of their bank accounts, rentals, salaries, and property disposal. All districts, with the exception of Helena District had closed out charge accounts, paid up office equipment rentals, telephones shut off, disposal of office furniture, arranged office closure, supplies returned to Red Cross Chapters, salaries paid through 30 April 1974, left-over monies in district accounts officially transferred to SSI Division account and all financial records brought to seminar workshop for storage.



(2) The districts reported that telephone accounts were still outstanding due to late billing dates; however, each district had made detailed cost estimates for telephone usage and these figures were furnished to the Division Director. It was understood the Division Director would pay outstanding telephone charges of each district, as they arrive. These payments would be made from the district consolidated left-over monies, placed at Division level. To back these procedures, the SSI Alert Districts did receive a letter of authorization from the State Director of Aging (attachment 2), which allowed left-over monies of each SSI District to be placed in the Division Office at Great Falls and distribute these monies throughout the month of May 1974. It was suggested these remittances be made in the form of a cashier's check, rather than a bank account check, due to the approximate 30 day time span to receive bank statements and cancelled checks.

(3) The seminar chairman then asked each district to give their report for estimated financial standing, effective 30 April 74. The reports were received and duly recorded - all questions and problems were resolved on the spot. Specific questions were made by several persons regarding the payment of withheld Federal/State taxes and unemployment costs. The following financial reports by SSI District Directors follow:

Mr. Lithander - Great Falls District

# Leftover monies \$171.16. Remitted to Division. Includes all bills paid except telephone. Mr. Gonzales stated all left over monies will have a separate bank account and will require dual signatures.

Mrs. Wilma Puich - Butte District

# Leftover monies \$116.57; this will more than cover phone bills - no other problems. Mrs. Puich posed the question and advisability for breaking up her present bookkeeping system - Mr. Gonzales advised no, just put in manila envelopes and properly tag all reports for future filing. Mrs. Puich has not received final March bank statement.

Mr. Byron Hess - Missoula District

# The exact expense is unknown for conference room, etc. yet, left over monies will amount to o/a \$416.89, which will be remitted to the Division Office. All taxes have been paid and checks issued.

Mrs. Hattie Martin - Billings District

- # Mrs. Martin thought all records should go to the SSI Division at Great Falls. Estimated left over monies to be \$98.67, which will be remitted to Division, Great Falls.

Mr. George Eyebe1 - Helena District

- # Left over monies - approximately \$112.36. All bills paid, except telephone. Mr. Gonzales promised to come to Helena and talk to Mrs. Patton (Executive Secretary at Helena) and encourage her to turn over all original checks and vouchers to the Helena District Director's file records. It is believed all original records/files of Montana's SSI Alert Program should be kept in the permanent storage files of each SSI Alert District.

Mr. Phillip Gonzales, Division Director.

- # Mr. Gonzales stated a written report, plus substantiating financial data, should be given to each Red Cross Chapter Board by the District Directors. He suggested he would give such a report when he visits and briefs the SSA District Managers in May 1974. It was also determined that Red Cross personnel in the 5 district chapters should be briefed and trained to answer questions from future potential SSI applicants and callers.
- # Mr. Gonzales asked for suggestions on the dispensation of left over monies. Several suggestions were made among which was the suggestion to use more paid publicity. Mr. King said that May was Senior Citizens' month and paid publicity could encourage people to come in and apply SSI. Mr. Gonzales asked Mr. Lars Lithander to draft a statement for the news media on the SSI Alert Program and phase-out; Mr. Lithander did comply with this request before the seminar adjourned.

(4) Mr. Gonzales had asked Mr. Hess, District Director for Missoula, to obtain a guest speaker and advisor from the Small Business Administration (SBA) for the benefit of all seminar members in filing and handling seminar monies and close out of accounts.

Mr. Dickinson did arrive in the morning and gave many suggestions for the handling of financial monies and phase out; certainly, all conferees were extremely impressed with his remarks and advice.

(5) Upon conclusion of Mr. Dickinson's remarks, it was decided to hold all SSI District records at SSI Division level for a period of 5-7 years. At this time, Mr. Gonzales confirmed the exact linear footage each district director would require for the storage of their respective records. When this was determined, Mr. Gonzales, and his secretary brought standard sized boxes for each district director's records during the noon break for lunch.

### C. Outline Final Report Requirements

(1) Mr. Gonzales opened the afternoon session of the seminar with the issuance of storage boxes to each district director. Mr. Gonzales then proceeded to outline, step by step, the exact procedure for storage of district records. For example, all tabs would be referenced in the following manner:

#### # Financial Reports

- 1) Vouchers
- 2) Cancelled Checks
- 3) Salaries
- 4) Travel Per Diem
- 5) Volunteer Travel
- 6) Office Equipment
- 7) Unemployment/Social Security

#### Activity Reports

- 1) December, 1973 - Field Report and Seminar Report
- 2) January, 1974 - Field Report and Seminar Report
- 3) February, 1974 - Field Report and Seminar Report
- 4) April, 1974 - Field Report and Seminar Report
- 5) Four Month Summary Report
- 6) Overall Evaluation Report of the SSI Alert Program  
Montana

#### # Policy Authorization.

#### # Public Information Folder

- (1) Paid advertising
- (2) Radio
- (3) Television
- (4) Newspaper

#### # Volunteer Data

- (1) Names of key volunteers
- (2) Names of volunteers

- # Letters of Appreciation
- # Consortium
  - (1) Briefing
  - (2) Minutes
  - (3) List of Consortium
- # General Correspondence
- # SSI General Information - Data

As a result, each SSI Alert District Director's file of records are outlined, established and stored in the exact system.

(2) Considerable time was spent by each district director in organizing and filing all SSI records in the manner outlined by the Division Director. A duplicator had been provided to make needed copies of policy letters, etc. if required by district director's file/record needs. Upon conclusion of the first day's seminar, all field reports and financial reports had been given - all storage boxes obtained - all SSI Alert District Director's file records had been outlined, labeled, categorized and stored in each respective storage box.

3. The second day of the seminar (Tuesday, 30 April 1974) was devoted to a hearing of all SSI Alert District Director's Field Reports for the month of April 74. Since an outline for the final four month summary report had been forwarded to each district director in mid-April by the Division Director, all district directors handed in their complete written report, after their verbal recitation. Each report was evaluated and checked to insure specific/pertinent questions from state/national agency levels had been answered and reported. Each of these reports will be included in the overall final report of the Division Director. Highlights of the SSI Alert district directors reports, to include problem areas and recommendations are, as follows:

- a. Indians

There was a consensus of opinion from all directors that the SSI Program, as it applies to Montana Indians, would be a long, continuing program and not completed in a short or final manner. A long discussion and report was made by each district director on the special handling required in briefing and promoting the SSI Program on the reservation.

No single director was pleased or completely satisfied with the SSI Program among the Indians. It was concluded that the SSI Program

was not unique in itself for non participation, but all other programs and projects met with the same attitude and results.

The Division Director stated he would visit all Montana Indian Reservations in the month of May and transition the SSI Alert Program to Community Health Representatives (CHR). This was in agreement and concurrence with Mr. John Fleming, Indian Health Service, who will propose this project to his key CHR supervisors on 8 May 1974 in Billings, Montana. Mr. Gonzales will brief and train all CHR personnel on each reservation in regard to the SSI Program and distribute all necessary material and brochures.

b. Social Security Administration

It was conceded that more benefits to the SSI Alert Program could have been experienced by all directors and volunteers if the five SSA District Managers could have met at one time and discussed across the board all facets of the program. Meeting each SSA Manager separately was important and beneficial but not enough concerted, firm guidance on policy or procedures - each SSA Manager had a slightly different approach or opinion on SSI matters.

c. Letters of Appreciation, etc.

All district directors were encouraged to write and forward all letters of appreciation and thanks to their key workers and volunteers, to include business, publicity, state/local media and people.

d. Publicity

It was discovered during April that paid publicity was extremely successful and well worth the cost. It is recommended on future programs that paid publicity be established in the early phases of any project and the free public service news media will follow more easily.

4. The seminar discussion continued throughout the remainder of the afternoon on the Final Report Wrap Up and Storage of Files. The SSI Alert Seminar V. was adjourned at 1630 hours, Tuesday, 30 April 1974. In summary, all seminar objectives had been met, questions answered, problems resolved and all business of Montana's SSI Alert Program for the Aged, Blind and Disabled had been successfully concluded and closed.

PHILLIP R. GONZALES  
DIVISION DIRECTOR  
SSI ALERT PROGRAM  
STATE OF MONTANA



ATTACHMENT I

A G E N D A

SSI ALERT PROGRAM  
SEMINAR

Missoula, Montana

29, 30 April 1974  
1 May 1974

Monday, 29 April 1974

Oro Fino Room

<u>TIME</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>SPEAKER/HOST</u>
8:00 - 8:15	Welcome - Introduction SSI Alert Seminar V	Mr. Byron Hess
8:15 - 8:30	Discussion of Seminar Workshop	Mr. Phillip Gonzales
8:30 - 8:50	Financial Reports & Phase Out	Mr. Phillip Gonzales Mr. Byron Hess
8:50 - 9:00	Coffee Break	
9:00 - 10:00	Financial Reports & Phase Out	Mr. Phillip Gonzales Mr. Byron Hess
10:00 - 10:10	Coffee Break	
10:10 - 11:30	Financial Reports & Phase Out	Mr. Phillip Gonzales Mr. Byron Hess
11:30 - 1:00	Lunch	
1:00 - 1:15	Outline Final Report Requirements	Mr. Phillip Gonzales Director
1:15 - 5:30	District Report Summaries	All



Tuesday, 30 April 1974

Oro Fino Room

<u>TIME</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>SPEAKER/HOST</u>
8:00 - 11:30	District Report Summaries	All
11:30 - 1:00	Lunch	
1:30 - 5:30	Final Report	All
7:00	Dinner - No Host The Beautiful Deck Room of The Village Inn	

Wednesday, 1 May 1974

8:30 - 10:30	Breakfast in the Deck Room "Arivederci"	
12:00	Check Out time	

The Big Sky Country



ATTACHMENT 11  
STATE OF MONTANA  
SOCIAL AND REHABILITATION SERVICES

Helena, Montana 59601

April 23, 1974

THOMAS L. JUDGE  
Governor

THEODORE CARKULIS  
Director

The Red Cross Chapters  
Billings, Montana  
Butte, Montana  
Great Falls, Montana  
Helena, Montana  
Missoula, Montana

Attention: SSI District Director

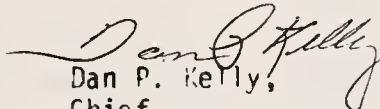
Dear Director:

This letter is to inform you that as of May 1, 1974, all funds that are available in each of the five SSI offices which were allocated by this office for the SSI Alert Program will be sent, no later than May 10, 1974, to The American Red Cross State Office, Civic Center Complex, Great Falls, Montana, Attention: Mr. Phillip R. Gonzales, Divisional SSI Director.

All bills and statements received after May 1, 1974, by any of the individual district offices will be sent to Mr. Gonzales to the State office for final payment.

A detailed audit of the entire program will be made by Mr. Gonzales on the completion of the SSI Alert from his office.

Very truly yours,

  
Dan P. Kelly,  
Chief  
Aging Services Bureau

DPK:WHM:mm

IV

SSI ALERT DIVISION DIRECTOR'S  
OVERALL REPORT SUMMARY FOR MONTANA

ANNEX "A".....SSI ALERT DIVISION DIRECTOR REPORT, DEC 73  
ANNEX "B".....SSI ALERT DIVISION DIRECTOR REPORT, JAN 74  
    Tab B.....Eastern Montana Monthly Report, Jan 74  
ANNEX "C".....SSI ALERT DIVISION DIRECTOR REPORT, FEB 74  
    Tab C.....Eastern Montana Monthly Report, Feb 74  
ANNEX "D".....SSI ALERT DIVISION DIRECTOR REPORT, MAR 74  
    Tab D.....Eastern Montana Monthly Report, Mar 74  
ANNEX "E".....SSI ALERT DIVISION DIRECTOR REPORT, APR 74  
    Tab E.....Eastern Montana Monthly Report, Apr 74  
ANNEX "F".....SSI ALERT DIVISION DIRECTOR REPORT, MAY 74  
ANNEX "G".....SSI ALERT DIVISION SUMMARY ANALYSIS

- . Facts and Specific Achievements
- . Evaluations
- . Problems
- . Recommendations
- . Phase-out
- . Future

Appendix I.....Montana SSI Alert Organization  
Appendix II.....Montana SSI Alert Budget  
Appendix III.....Montana SSI Alert Statistics